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OF THE

HUMANE SOCIETY.

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SOCIETY OF LONDON
MEDICAL

REPORTS
OF THE
HUMANE SOCIETY,

Instituted in the YEAR 1774,

FOR THE
RECOVERY
OF
PERSONS

APPARENTLY

DROWNED.



For the Year M.DCC.LXXVI.

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INTRODUCTION.

HOW pleasing is the task to take up the pen in these our periodical publications, in order to relate the particulars of our success, compared with that of forming precarious plans, and attempting to awaken the attention, or claim the aid of the publick, to enable us to put them into execution ! With what satisfaction do we reflect that we have already made such progress in the preservation of life, and have received such encouragements in the prosecution of our designs, that little now remains but to become faithful historians of interesting facts !

The impediments to our first establishment, it is true, were great and very discouraging ; and with a degree of reluctance, which nothing but an ardent desire to alleviate the distresses of mankind could overcome, did we venture to combat the popular prejudices, and propose a Scheme, which we were well apprized would not only expose us to the ridicule of little minds, but to the objections of men eminent for their sense and learning. Yet

on the other hand, had we not every reason to expect when the first difficulties should be removed, when we had demonstrated the truth of our grand proposition concerning the possibility of restoring persons seemingly *dead*, that the encouragements and patronage given to our Institution, would equal, if not prove *superior*, to those bestowed upon the most flourishing of the numerous establishments which profess to lessen the sum of human misery? For so soon as men shall become universally convinced that we have recalled numbers from going down to the grave; that we have restored the support of many a dependent family; that we have given back many a lost child to the arms of its distracted parents; reconciled to life those who were making a desperate plunge into eternity, that they might throw off its burden: When men begin sincerely to reflect, that the distresses we attempt to alleviate may possibly be *their own*, every one who lays but the smallest claim to the love either of his neighbour or *himself*, will wish well to, and promote to the utmost of his power, the interests of our Society!

It is necessary, in due respect to the prudent caution which a wise man will take, not to be the dupe of every project that promises the good of mankind

mankind for its object, that we allow some time for the more extensive progress of that conviction which now begins to operate: and yet, such is the importance of our pretensions, so much good may be prevented by an unreasonable caution, that we cannot forbear expressing our most earnest desires, that the portion of incredulity which still remains may be speedily removed.

In order to gain that universal credit which we know we deserve, we have taken the utmost pains to collect true information; and we lay it before the publick just as we have received it. In almost every instance, the cases are related in the very words of the gentlemen who have communicated them to us; and we are convinced that an unprejudiced mind will observe internal evidences of simplicity and truth. There does not appear to be any attempt to render *trivial* accidents *important*, nor the least ground for suspicion that the relater has exaggerated *common* incidents into the *marvellous*. Nor can it be rationally supposed that a number of persons, of whom several are equally strangers to each other, and to us, would all unite in confirmation of this interesting axiom, 'that an object may *not* be really dead, a very considerable time after every

vital function *has ceased*, were it not an axiom founded upon their joint experience.'

As we have taken great pains to avoid being deceived ourselves, as we are not conscious of the least intention to deceive others, we have a right to expect in return, that others will take some pains to consider the evidence and importance of the things we report. If the whole be a *fable*, we challenge our antagonists to demonstrate this; we have, by being circumstantial in our narratives, put into their hands ample materials for the purpose; and we will submit to the reproach of weak credulity, or to the greater shame of convicted impostors. If it *be not*, we call upon them to unite with us in the relief of the distressed; and we must intreat them to remember, that he who is inactive, where it is in his power to save life, is in some respects responsible for the loss of that life.

We sincerely wish, that men of elevated stations in particular, would maturely reflect upon the singular benefits they may render to mankind, by patronizing a design which can have no other object than the publick good. The laudable exertions of the late Lord Cathcart, whose influence
alone

alone has established a similar Institution in a neighbouring kingdom, demonstrate how easy it is for a great man to render himself extensively useful, and bear down vulgar prejudices, by the sole weight of his authority.

An attentive peruser of our reports will observe, that the incidents naturally divide themselves into three classes ; that they relate to persons who, by receiving immediate assistance, have been preserved from threatening danger ; to persons who were almost expired ; and to those in whom all the vital powers were totally suspended, and who, before the establishment of our Society, would have been left to perish, from an apprehension that they were already dead. New and astonishing as our pretensions may be in this latter class of accidents, we think that we have established the facts beyond the possibility of a rational doubt. But should obstinate scepticism, or an attachment to an ill-founded theory, still prove an obstacle to conviction, surely the most determined incredulity will not deny us the honour of having preserved great numbers from perishing, who may be placed in the two former classes : and that thousands may hereafter owe their lives to that attention we have excited, and to those encouragements we hold

hold forth to every one who shall attempt to rescue his brother in the moment of distress. It is in vain to assert, that the common principles of humanity are always sufficient for this purpose, as numberless facts have fatally demonstrated the contrary; and as the influence of our rewards has been frequently acknowledged by the assistant parties themselves. A comparative view also of the number of persons rescued from death since our establishment has been generally known, with those saved in the same space of time previous to that period, will place the fallacy of such assertions in the clearest light. In truth, the certainty of a recompence can never prove a check to the natural workings of humanity; but is most likely to operate very effectually, where the workings of humanity may fail. It is highly probable, and we rejoice in the expectation, that the number of striking and wonderful restorations will *decrease*, in proportion as the assiduity of the lower class of people shall *increase*; and that such immediate succour will be given as shall render the application of further aid unnecessary. But if we prove instrumental in saving of life, it must be a matter of indifference to every considerate mind, whether the circumstances attending this preservation become more or less wonderful.

In publishing the Reports for the year 1776, we have in some respects adhered to our former Plan: We have first given those *successful* Cases which have fallen under the immediate inspection of the Society, together with a *summary* view of the *unsuccessful* ones; by which the Reader will plainly see how much we have gained over the preceding years: we have afterwards given the Cases which have been communicated to us from individuals, or from other Societies. To these we have subjoined a *Second Part*, containing a general account of the proceedings of the Society, and of other establishments which have originated from ours; and also some singular cases, chiefly selected from the publications of the Dutch and French, in order to demonstrate still further the assertion, that persons are equally recoverable in sudden suspensions of the vital powers from various other causes, and to animate to still greater perseverance in the most desperate and alarming accidents.

We will not further anticipate the Reader's reflections; but it is proper to acquaint him with one circumstance, as it will not appear from the perusal of our Reports. He will be pleased to learn, that of the number of objects for whom the promised rewards were paid, no less than

eleven

eleven out of *fourteen* have been preserved from committing an act of suicide: and he will be yet more pleased to learn, that all of them are reconciled to life, nor have they indicated the least inclination to repeat their horrid purposes.

P A R T I.

The instances of success which have fallen under the cognizance of the Society, in the year 1776, &c.

C A S E LVI. No. I.

March 1, 1776. **A**S Mr. *Watson*, of *Hatton-street*, was walking in *St. James's Park*, between the hours of *twelve* and *one*, he observed a woman walking precipitately into the Canal, and that when she had advanced some yards, she threw herself backwards. He ran immediately to the spot, pulled off his clothes, and went into the water after her, and, with the assistance of some persons passing by, dragged her out. Mr. *Watson* then left her to the care of the attendants, who promised they would do every thing in their power to recover her, and hastened to Mr. *Hawes* in the Strand, the only Medical Assistant he could recollect at the time. That Gentleman not being at home, he was recommended to Mr. *Beaumont*, who went with him. When they were arrived at the place, the people collected together upon this occasion informed them, that by the great attention of the assistants, to whose care Mr. *Watson* had left the unfortunate
B object,

object, she was so far recovered as to be able to be conveyed in a coach to her lodgings, which were in *Clare-Market*.

Mr. *Watson*, anxious to know the event, sought, and with great difficulty found out her lodging; where he saw the poor woman lying insensible, and apparently in the utmost danger. He again called upon Mr. *Hawes*, who accompanied him to her apartments, and humanely promised every assistance in his power.

The following particulars concerning this unfortunate object, were afterwards communicated to us by Messrs. *Hawes* and *Beaumont*.

“ We, as Medical Assistants to the Society, attended *Jane Duffin*, and found her in strong convulsions. A violent fever and delirium succeeded to these fits, and she continued in a very dangerous situation for about a *fortnight*. The fever then began to abate, and in the space of ten days, every febrile symptom disappeared. But in consequence of the melancholy event, and of the violence and continuance of her fever, she was reduced to the utmost relaxation and weakness, and troubled with a variety of nervous complaints, incident to this debilitated state. To these we also attended, and by the application of proper remedies they at length wore off. In the space of *two months* we had the satisfaction to see this unhappy creature perfectly restored to health. She expressed her most grateful acknowledgements for the care which had been taken of her.”

The above case presents us with another striking instance of the great utility of our institution, as Mr. *Watson* ingenuously acknowledges that it was “ the establishment of such a society that prompted him

him to do his utmost to succour this distressed object ; for although he expected to find her apparently dead, yet he presumed that by the application of suitable means she might be restored."

Mr. *Watson* received the unanimous thanks of the Society, for the great attention and humanity he discovered on this occasion.

C A S E LVII. No. 2.

Saturday, *March 17*. *Elizabeth Martin* was seen by some watermen upon the river, to throw herself into the *Thames* opposite the *Archbishop's Walk, Lambeth*. *James Jacobs*, a waterman, was the first who came to her assistance ; but from the resistance of the water, and her great weight, in consequence of the wetness of her clothes, he was not able to raise the body above the surface. Upon his calling for help, another waterman arrived, but his aid proved insufficient for the purpose. Two others at length came up, and by their assistance the poor creature was heaved into one of their boats. It is supposed that full *ten minutes* were elapsed from the time of her being first in the water, to that of her being taken into the boat: during which period she was floating motionless, with her head dipt almost ventrically under the surface of the water, and her posteriors boyant. She was immediately conveyed to the sign of the *Cross Keys*, kept by Mr. *Calley*, who humanely took the woman into his house, and supplied the attendants with every thing required. She was, when taken out, to all appearance dead, cold, mo-

tionless, with her eyes immoveably fixed. The attendants applied, with vigour, the methods recommended by the Society, and in a short space of time she gave some signs of life, which gradually increased. But she was yet in such extream danger, that three women were obliged to remain with her from Saturday till the Monday night following. The Publican very humanely gave her lodgings for three days. She was afterwards removed to *Lambeth* workhouse, where she was kindly taken care of till she was perfectly restored in mind and body.

The parties assisting shared the premium given by the Society. Mr. *Calley*, the publican, was recompensed for keeping the woman so long in his house.

The particulars of the above Case were collected from Mr. *Burgefs* of Lambeth, Medical Assistant to the Society, and the Claimants of the rewards.

C A S E LVIII. No. 3.

Friday, April 19, 1776. As *Mary Ann Ricker*, a little girl, belonging to *Sadler's Wells*, was stooping by the side of the New River, to fill a kettle with water, the kettle became too heavy for her, and drew her under the water. *John Baptist Wood* (or *Du-Bois*), a lad aged about fourteen years, belonging also to the same house, as he was amusing himself in an upper chamber, heard the noise of something flouncing in the water; which drew his attention to the window, where he saw his little companion in the utmost distress.

distress. He immediately flew down stairs, and jumped into the water to her assistance. He succeeded so far, as to be able to bring her to the side of the river, but his strength was not equal to bearing her on shore. He called out for help, and her father coming, assisted them both. Mr. *Church* was sent for, but when he arrived, he found that no medical aid was necessary, as the girl had not only been taken out with signs of life, but was soon perfectly recovered. He became, however, a witness to the above account, the particulars of which he sent in a note to the Treasurer, by the hands of the lad; who received a suitable reward for his great humanity and expedition.

C A S E LIX. No. 4.

The following Case was communicated by Mr. *Burgess*, Medical Assistant, at Lambeth, in a letter to the Treasurer.

“ S I R,

April 29, 1776.

“ I inform you, that one *James Carmichael*, through great distress, attempted to drown himself in the *Thames*, near *Lambeth Church*, about one o'clock in the morning, on *Thursday* last. Some fishermen coming down the river, heard, as they thought, something plunge into the water, and called to other fishermen who were in their boat at a distance. These came to the place, and assisted in endeavouring to find the body. In about *five minutes*, one of the fishermen caught hold of the flap of his coat, which tore off, so
that

that the body sunk again. The night being very dark, *five* or *six* minutes more elapsed, before they found it a second time. They then covered the body up with some flannels they had in the boat, and brought it on shore, to Mr. *Calley's*, at the *Cross-Keys*; it being so late an hour, they at first *refused* them admittance, but at last consented: So that upon the most moderate calculation, it was full a *quarter of an hour* before he was taken out of the water and brought into the house. They then pulled off his wet clothes, and immediately sent for me; when the means laid down by the Society were used with the greatest earnestness by the assistants, as well as myself, and in about *half an hour* he fetched a deep groan, then sighed several times, and appeared extremely uneasy and restless. In about *an hour* he spoke very low. His pulse now became quite evident, and his breathing tolerably easy. He fell asleep, and in about *three hours* awaked very sensible; so that when I came to see him the next morning, he was pretty well recovered. I asked him how he came to commit so rash an action, he said *he had had no work for several days, and was in want of the common necessities of life.*

“ I am, Sir,

“ Your humble servant,

“ JAMES BURGESS.

“ P. S. *Joseph Gutteridge, Richard Jenkins, John Jones, and John Izard*, are the fishermen, justly entitled to the reward offered by the Society, for their assistance in restoring life: and Mr. *Culley*, the publican, is also entitled to his *guinea*, for receiving him into his house at so late an hour.”

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These persons were accordingly paid the rewards proposed.

C A S E LX. No. 5.

Friday, April 19. As *John Hunt*, a labouring-man, living in *St. Martin's-le-Grand*, and *John Day*, of *Saffron-Hill*, were going to work amongst some of the new buildings, *Islington*, about *five o'clock* in the morning, they saw an elderly man walking up and down by the side of a pond, behind *Colbrook-row*, in a slow, pensive manner. At length they suddenly lost sight of him, and imagining he had thrown himself into the water, they ran up to the place, when they saw him in the middle of the water: One of them, who happened to know the depth of the pond, went in and layed hold of his skirts; and with the assistance of the other, dragged him on shore. They found he had filled his pockets full of *bricks*. There were some feeble signs of remaining life, but they still judged him in great danger. They immediately conveyed him to *Mr. Castledon's*, at the *Half-Moon, Lower-street, Islington*, who put him into a warm bed, and gave him every assistance in his power. He continued there *two or three days*. He was at first sullen, refusing to speak, or answer any questions, and seemed disappointed that his horrid purpose had been frustrated. But by the pious care of a clergyman in the neighbourhood, who prayed by him, and conversed with him in a serious and pertinent manner, he seemed to be brought to a due sense of his crime. At length he became communicative. He said
his

his name was *James Harvey*, that he lodged at the *Crooked Billet, Hoxton*, and that he had been induced to put an end to his life, because the *world frowned upon him, and that he had seen better times*. We have the satisfaction to assure the public, that the man left the house seemingly composed, and reconciled to his station in life, and promising that he would not make any future attempt.

The above particulars were also communicated to us by Mr. *Church*.

The Publican, and the two labourers, were satisfactorily rewarded.

C A S E LXI. No. 6.

Sunday, April 21. Samuel Rossell, (aged eight years) of St. Sepulchre's school Within, accidentally fell into the New River, near Sadler's Wells. He was immediately taken out by *James Hunt*, and carried to Mr. *Haynes's*, at the *Middleton's Head*, where he wanted no farther assistance.

James Hunt, and Mr. *Haynes*, the Publican, were satisfactorily recompensed.

C A S E LXII. No. 7.

The following singular instance of restoration, we shall give in the words of the Medical Gentleman whose apprentice superintended the cure, addressed to the Treasurer.

“ S I R,

“ O N *Thursday* evening last, *May 2*, about a quarter after five, *Henry Moore*, of *Paradise-row*,
near

near the turnpike at *Holloway*, came to my house, which is at least a mile distant from thence, desiring me to go to his daughter, a child about fifteen months old, just taken out of a pond at the end of the Row, about ten yards from her house, and to all appearance dead. Being in *London* at that time, my senior apprentice, Mr. *Adams*, who has but a few months to serve, went, and he tells me found the child lying upon her back on cloths before a large fire, with her head inclining backwards some inches (a very unfavourable position!) He immediately got a flannel well heated, and put the child into it, and placed her on a table upon pillows near the window, laying her on her back, with her head a little raised, and ordered the friction with salt (which had been used before he came) to be continued. He then injected the fumes of tobacco *per anum*, applied flannels dipt in hot brandy to the stomach, and used the other remedies recommended by the Society, which in about *twenty minutes* began to have happy effects, the child shewing some signs of life by a very faint motion of the jaw, and a small pulsation of the wrist, which till then had been imperceptible. Observing this, he gave her a little weak wine and water, made warm, and repeated it frequently 'till the pulse grew stronger, which it did gradually, and in about *two hours and a quarter* she perfectly recovered. He found upon enquiry, and I have since been assured of it by the father and mother, that the child had been some time missing, and that more than *half an hour* was taken up in looking about the fields, &c. after her; that on their return they found her in the pond mentioned above, floating on the water,

with her face downward, and when taken out she was, to the apprehension of all who saw her, *dead*: she was also quite black over the whole surface of the body, excepting at the pit of the stomach. I should suppose, from the best accounts I have been able to collect, that she could not have been less than *twenty-five minutes* under water; but this no one can with any certainty say: certain it is, however, that not the least sign of life appeared 'till she had been taken out *more than half an hour*.

I am, Sir, your humble Servant,

Islington, May 4, 1776.

J. HOLE."

In consequence of a conjecture formed by Mr. Church, mentioned in the Reports of the last year (see page 53) relative to the opacity of the *cornea* being an unfavourable symptom, Mr. Hole acquaints us, that his apprentice paid particular attention to this circumstance; and found not only the *pupil* largely dilated, but that the eyes had entirely lost their lustre, which was at first a discouraging circumstance to him; and he expresses great satisfaction in being able, from this instance, to animate attendants to persevere in their attempts, notwithstanding an appearance which was deemed so unfavourable*.

It must give pleasure to every friend to our Society, and to the cause it professedly promotes, to be informed that the parents of the child were in-

* Mr. Church has also informed us, that in another Case at which he had assisted, though without success, the party being irrecoverably dead, he perceived the *cornea perfectly clear and transparent*.

duced

duced to apply the means we have recommended, by a *Butcher* who was present at the recovery of *John Venables*. (See the Reports of the year 1775, Case XXV.) This man animated their hopes by telling them the success of that instance, and also was enabled by it to give them directions how to proceed, without which the child must have been infallibly lost, before superior aid could be obtained.

C A S E LXIII. No. 8.

To the Treasurer of the Society.

“ S I R,

“ I HAVE the happiness to communicate to you another Case of recovery from drowning. The particulars were told me by Mrs. *Ward*, at the *King of Prussia's Head*, to whose care and attention the poor creature owes her life. Mrs. *King*, of *Sadler's Wells*, saw her throw herself into the river on *Friday* evening, *April 26*, and immediately sent some of her servants to her assistance. However, as the distance was considerable, before they could come she had sunk, excepting a part of her clothes, by means of which they pulled her out, *to all appearance dead*. They carried her to Mrs. *Ward's*, who had her immediately conveyed upstairs and stripped. Then they wiped her very dry with coarse cloths, and put her into bed between the blankets. Mrs. *Ward* says her face was black and swoln, and that she was entirely cold over the whole body, nor could she perceive the least degree of sensibility. She sent for me, and in the interim rubbed her well with

hot brandy, and applied flannels dipped in it to her arm-pits and thorax. These means *alone* brought on a slight trembling and convulsive motion in about a quarter of an hour, which gradually encreased; and in a quarter of an hour after (at which time Mr. *Clifton*, my journeyman, came in, I not being at home) the patient attempted to speak. The same means continued for *another half hour*, completely restored a general heat. Her pulse being now very full, and the breathing difficult, Mr. *Clifton* took from her about four ounces of blood, which immediately relieved these complaints; and in about *ten minutes* more she spoke sensibly, and soon perfectly recovered. The person's name is *Mary Harris*, she lives at Mr. *Price's a Chandler's Shop, Shoe-Lane, next Holborn.*

I am, Sir,

Your very humble servant,

May 3, 1776.

JOHN CHURCH."

The names of the men who took her out are, *William Huntley, Robert Henwood, and George Redfan.*—Messenger's name, *Samael Goodwin.*

The parties received the rewards promised by the Society.

[C A S E LXIV. No. 9 and 10.]

The following is a Copy of a Letter transmitted to the Treasurer by Mr. *R. Smith*, Medical Assistant at *Lime-House*.

“ S I R,

“ This morning, between nine and ten o’clock, a *Gravesend* boat, coming down the river, struck on an anchor stock, opposite *Limehouse Hole*, and immediately sunk, with four people in her, three of them belonging to the boat, and one passenger. *John Stanley*, a waterman of the above place (and bearer of this letter) directly put off to their assistance, and was so fortunate as to save *two of them*, when in the utmost danger, being covered with the main sail, and under water. The poor passenger was lost, it not being possible to disengage him from the rigging. The other man was saved by a ship’s boat. The vessel still remains under water. Mr. Horsley at *Limehouse Hole* applied to me for this letter, as the man was encouraged, by the hopes of a reward from the Society, to use his endeavours to save them: which he did to the satisfaction of many of the inhabitants of the above place, who were witnesses to it.

I am, Sir, with great respect,

Your oblig’d humble servant,

Limehouse, June 20, 1776.

R^D. SMITH.

The man received Two Guineas as a reward for his zeal and assiduity, which were so great that he endangered the oversetting his own boat.

C A S E

C A S E LXV. No. II.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. *Wm. Clowes*, dated
Henley, June 9, 1776.

“ S I R,

“ I take the earliest opportunity to transmit the particulars of my success in the recovery of a child, apparently dead by drowning, which happened in the afternoon yesterday, about four o'clock. This is the second case of the kind that has fallen to my care since my coming to this place, and I have been happily successful in both.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

WM. CLOWES.”

Thomas *Mellet's* son of this place, a child between *four* and *five* years old, was bathing yesterday in the river *Thames*, (which runs close by the side of the town.) The child accidentally fell down in the river, and was under water above a *quarter of an hour*. He was taken up, at a considerable distance, to all appearance dead. The extremities and body were cold, the jaws fallen, and no pulse to be discovered. The person that took him up, suspended him by the legs for some time, then he was immediately taken home, to a house at a small distance, and laid on the bed between the blankets, when I was called upon for assistance. I diligently pursued the usual methods of strong frictions by warm flannels, stimulants to the
nose,

nose, and blowing with great force into the mouth down the throat : In about *a quarter of an hour* there appeared symptoms of life by small gaspings, and as soon as the child was able to swallow, I got down a small quantity of brandy and water, and in *an hour* the child was perfectly recovered.

“*Thomas Nash*, at *Henley*, was the person that took the child out of the water, and I think him intitled to the reward.”

This man received a Guinea from the Treasurer.

The first Case to which *Mr. Clowes* referred, was inserted amongst those communicated to us by our correspondents. [see Reports for the year 1775, Case VIII. letter A.] But since that time the Society have been enabled to extend their premiums to such a distance, as to include the place where this accident happened : It is of consequence inserted here, amongst the first class of accidents, or such as immediately fall under their own inspection ; and in which the Society pays its proffered reward.

C A S E LXVI. No. 12.

July 9, 1776. *Mary Smith*, a poor woman, threw herself into a pond or basin, facing the house of *Mr. H. Bache*, *Hoxton*. She was taken out by *Mr. Launcelot Roberts*, a painter, who happened providentially to pass that way. He supposes she might have been in the water about *four minutes*. She at first appeared totally void of life, but *Mr. Roberts* found, after he had shaken her

her for some time, that she gave indications of life, which increased so fast, without the use of any other means, that in a little time she was able to swallow down some liquid which was given her. She was afterwards conveyed to the work-house belonging to *St. Leonard's, Shoreditch*, where she continued very ill several days, but by the skilful and humane treatment she received there, she was at length perfectly restored.

The above case was communicated to us in the form of a *certificate*, signed by Mr. *Bache*, Mr. *C. Muller*, (who was present at the time she was taken out) and Mr. *Joseph Titterton*, a Churchwarden: in which they strongly recommended *L. Roberts*, as the person who had been indisputably instrumental in saving the woman's life. He accordingly received the recompence due to his humanity.

We take this opportunity of earnestly recommending it to the publick to pursue a similar mode, particularly in such cases where a Medical Assistant was not present, as it will enable the Treasurer to reward merit, without being exposed to the danger of imposition.

C A S E LXVII. No. 13.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. *Beaumont*, Medical Assistant, to the Treasurer.

“ S I R,

“ The following are the particulars of the recovery of *Elizabeth Jones*. I feel great pleasure in having it in my power to add one, to the many
pleasing

pleasing instances of success, since the happy establishment of the Humane Society, of which I have the honour of being a member.”

The C A S E.

About a quarter after *nine* at night, on *Thursday* the 11th of *July*, I was sent for to *Black Lyon Stairs*, where a poor woman had been just taken out of the *Thames*. Being fortunately at home, I immediately went, and, as the distance is small, was there in a very few minutes. I found her amidst a great crowd of people, supported by men and women, in a lifeless state, quite stiff and cold, her feet contracted, and her neck, throat, and lips, livid. As it was near the *Black Lyon* publick house, I had her brought in directly and carried up stairs, and laid on a bed. I then ordered two women to strip her of her wet clothes and wipe her quite dry with warm cloths, which being done, I got a warm blanket and wrapp'd her in it, with her head raised higher than the body. I now sent for Mr. *Hawes*, willing to have the opinion of so able and judicious a practitioner. In the mean time the women used frictions, with warm salt to the arms and legs, and I rubbed her breast, shoulders, and spine, with a flannel dipt in hot brandy. I likewise applied volatiles to the temples and nose, and by persisting in these methods, in about *a quarter of an hour* I perceived symptoms of returning life; such as a gradual warmth, or weak pulsation at the wrist, and slight convulsive motions in her arms and shoulders. These symptoms pleased me much. A little time after she sigh'd feebly, and in a few minutes

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was able to swallow a spoonful or two of warm brandy and water. Her lips and cheeks began now to assume a more natural colour, and she spoke, though in a very faint voice ; and on my asking if she felt any pain, she put her hand to her stomach. Mr. *Hawes* being now come, he concurred with me in the methods that had been made use of, and as the warmth now began to be more general, we left off using the frictions, (except to the legs and feet, which were still cold and contracted) and in a little time she took some warm wine, with a bit of toasted bread ; her pulse was yet very languid and irregular, and she complained much of a pain across her breast. We therefore persuaded her to take some more of the warm wine ; and as the warmth in her legs and feet now returned, and on her complaining that her legs were sore from the frictions, we now desisted. The room she was in being very small and confined, we caused her to be moved to another more convenient and airy, and put in a warm bed. She was now better, and inclinable to sleep : we left her, and sent some cordial medicines to be taken occasionally, as she was very languid. I called on her again in about an hour and half, and found her in a gentle perspiration ; but still complaining of the pain and tightness across the chest. I ordered two women to sit up with her, with directions, that if any alarming symptoms should arise, to send for me ; but it seems she rested tolerably well.

Mr. *Hawes* and I called on her the next morning, and found her much better. Upon enquiry, we learned that she had thrown herself into the *Thames*, being friendless, and in distressed circumstances ;
and

and as she had no residence, she was sent to *St. Martin's work house*, where she was received with great humanity, and proper care taken of her by Mr. *Jarvis*, the Surgeon, (one of the Medical Assistants) and Mr. *Harding*, Apothecary to the house.

This woman was in the water above *five* minutes, and full *ten* minutes more elapsed before any means could be used towards her recovery. She is *forty* years of age.

I called on her at the work-house three days after the accident, when she shewed great contrition and remorse for the crime she had committed, and expressed much gratitude for the mercies she had received.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN BEAUMONT.

Villier's-street, York-Buildings, July 29, 1776.

We have the pleasure to inform the Publick, that the Directors of the above work-house have generously promised to take in any unfortunate object, in cases that may happen in the neighbourhood; and that they will administer every assistance in their power, without the Society's being burdened with any expence.

Samuel Wigg, the publican, who received the body into his house; *Isabella Ogilvie*, and *Elizabeth Davey*, the two persons who assisted in the recovery; and *Robert Stedman*, (Mr. *Wigg's* servant) who was principally active in taking the body out of the water, being properly recommended by Messrs. *Beaumont* and *Hawes*, received the rewards promised by the Society.

C A S E LXVIII. No. 14.

The following interesting narrative was transmitted to us by Mr. *Squires*, Medical Assistant at *Wandsworth*.

ON *Thursday evening, July 11*, I was called to a child of *William Bethel's*, a bargeman, of this place, supposed to be dead by drowning. It had fallen into a place called the *Dock*, near the *Thames*, and remained under water above *ten minutes*. When taken out was to all appearance dead. The body was speedily undressed, wrapped up in a blanket, and conveyed to the house of a *Widow Ruffel* in the neighbourhood, where it was rubbed with salt, and air was thrown up the intestines by a pair of bellows. The body was at intervals gently moved, and varied in its position, by the use of which means a quantity of water was discharged by the mouth, and food from the stomach. The child cried and gradually recovered. From the time of its being taken out of the water, to any signs of life appearing, might be about *half an hour*. This is the account I had from the people who assisted, and others who were present, which I should have transmitted immediately, but waited to have it authenticated by two gentlemen of credit and character, who were present, and humanely assisted on the occasion. The one is Mr. G. Cooper, brewer, No. 9, Hosier-lane, Smithfield; the other his son, a wine-merchant in the city; to either, or both of whom, the Society may be referred for the truth of this narrative. As soon as the messenger arrived at my house (which is about

about half a mile distant from the place where the child was taken in) I dispatched him with some general directions, and followed, as soon as I could put together a few articles which I thought necessary, but was happy to find on my arrival, the symptoms of returning life. If the Society should think proper to give the rewards, I will transmit the names of those who I have been informed were most assiduous and deserving.

I have the honour to be,

With great regard, Sir,

Your most obedient, and

Wandsworth, Very humble servant,
July 17, 1776.

J. SQUIRE.

Mr. *Squire*, in another letter to the Treasurer, mentions that the name of the child is *Ann Bethel*, her age two years and a half, and he adds, “ It is with real pleasure and satisfaction that I can say she is an instance, among many others, of the happy effects of the institution of your Humane Society : for I am fully persuaded the means used to restore life would not have been applied by the persons present, had they not been generally known, by being repeatedly published ; indeed, in this case, as in many others, before the institution of the Society, despair would have prevented any attempt to restore life.” He also informs us, that the names of the persons assisting, are *Mary and Elizabeth George, George Cooper, and Mary Moody*. The *Widow Russel* received the body, and *Ann Bigget* called him to their assistance, to whom he gave *half a crown*, as bringing the first account of the accident.

CASE

C A S E LXIX. No. 15.

The following claims a place in our Reports, as the person was actually restored to life, although the issue proved fatal.

“ S I R,

“ On *Friday* last, the 19th instant *July*, about four o'clock in the afternoon, I was called to attempt the recovery of *John Chesterman*, who had fallen into the *Thames* at *Bullwharf*, near *Queenhithe*. Before I got to him, he was taken into the *King's Arms*, a publick house near *Queenhithe Stairs*; and from the several accounts, was supposed to have been from *five* to *eight* minutes under water. I found him lying (upon the table of one of the boxes in the tap-room) on his belly, and I think with his head hanging down, stripped of all his wet clothes except his breeches: the persons present having sprinkled him pretty thick with salt, were rubbing him. Upon examining the wrist, there appeared some degree of pulsation, and I likewise observed a frothing at the mouth. I had him turned on his back immediately, with his head and shoulders a little raised; and as the place he was in was very confined, and the throng of people great, I had him carefully moved up one pair of stairs to a large airy room, and placed on a table, first spread with blankets and necessary bolstering. His breeches were immediately taken off, the frictions continued, and such other means made use of as occurred to me to recover the respiration, but without any apparent effect. The
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strangulation continuing in the highest degree alarming, and his pulse of sufficient strength to justify opening a vein, I immediately performed it in the bend of the arm, and he bled with great rapidity ; but as I had some time since received a caution from the Society respecting bleeding, I took away only five or six ounces at the most. In some little time after he appeared to breathe with less obstruction : I then put a tea-spoonful of wine into his mouth to try if he was able to swallow : it passed, but with some difficulty. Some time after, he appearing in great agony, and making several ineffectual efforts to reach, I thought it proper to give him something to discharge his stomach, which was with some difficulty got down, and in about *ten* or *fifteen* minutes it took effect, and he threw up two basons full of thick matter, consisting of beans, &c. undigested, he having not long before the accident made a hearty meal. After clearing his stomach, he so far recovered as to be able to speak pretty intelligibly. He had two or three stools, and being very desirous to be suffered to rest, I got him placed on a bed and properly covered, and desired the attendants to take opportunities of getting down some gruel with brandy or wine in it, likewise some weak broth or any light nourishment. I then left him in full expectation of his recovering, having a tolerable good pulse, and the respiration pretty well performed ; but, to my great surprize, in about *half an hour* a messenger brought me word they thought him dying, and before I got to him he was dead.

“ I am, Sir, your humble Servant,
Garlick-hill, July 24, JOHN WALFORD.
 1776.

“ The following Persons are entitled to the rewards of the Society :

“ *Mr. Marshall*, at the *Queen's Arms, Queen-bithe*, who took him in, and supplied the necessities.

“ *John Tyrrell*, (who took him out of the river) *William Hurford*, *Charles Kirkman*, and *Charles Lock*, who all assisted to recover him.

“ *Benjamin Edwards* assisted *Tyrrell* to take him up.”

This man lost his life through the wantonness, to give it no worse a name, of a porter upon the quay, who turned the plank which lay across from the lighter to the shore, when *Chesterman* was upon it, and thus threw him off. In the fall, he struck his side with violence against the edge of another lighter ; the part afterwards appeared much bruised : nor is it improbable but that an inward contusion was the cause for his sudden death ; particularly as he had for some time been in a very ill state of health. His loss is the more to be regretted, as he was a very sober diligent man, and hath left a wife and three children destitute.

C A S E LXX. No. 16.

In consequence of the following letter from Mr. *Beaumont*, the fisherman, who was the happy instrument of saving the life of the person mentioned below, received one guinea from the Society.

“ S I R,

“ T H E bearer of this, *Thomas Matthews*, fisherman, of *Chiswick*, came in great haste to me, between eleven and twelve o'clock last night, and desired I would go to the *Swan*, in *Arundel-street*, where he had conveyed a man out of the *Thames*, near *Arundel-stairs*. I went directly, and found the man in bed, quite well, and able to relate the following story. He said his name was *Stephen Witwick*, that he worked at Mr. *Howell's*, in *Surry-street*, as a journeyman-taylor; that he and his companion were fishing off some barges, and he accidentally fell into the water, and sunk under the barge; this fisherman, at great hazard to himself, leaning over his boat's side, caught hold of his collar, and pulled him from under the barge, and got him into his boat, and brought him on shore. Therefore I dare say you will agree with me, that he deserves to be rewarded for his attention and humanity.

“ I am, Sir,

“ Your most humble servant,

“ JOHN BEAUMONT.”

Villier's-street, York Buildings, July 27, 1776.

C A S E LXXI. No. 17.

“ SIR,

“ I was last night called to a poor man, who, in a fit of phrensy, walked into the *Thames*, at *Iron gate*. The men say he was under water *ten minutes*. When I arrived, I found the vital powers not altogether suspended, as I thought I perceived the artery at the wrist. Upon using the common methods for about *half an hour*, he began to breathe, but with great difficulty; his pulse being then much encreased, I took away some blood, which seemed to have a very good effect. He is this morning able to walk, but has not yet been heard to speak. If any thing particular occurs, will take an opportunity to inform you, not having leisure at present to be *more* circumstantial. The under-mentioned men, who were the most active, waiting for this, in order to obtain the reward.

“ I am, Sir,

“ Your most obedient servant,

“ WILLIAM MIDFORD.”

Burr-street, East Smithfield, August 1, 1776.

James Stephens, James Smith, William Wilkinson, and Isaac Perkins.

They were paid the premiums offered by the Society. The man was perfectly recovered.

CASE

C A S E LXXII. No. 18.

The following was communicated to us by Mr. *Adams*, senior apprentice to Mr. *Hoole*, *Islington*.

YESTERDAY in the afternoon, a boy fell into the *New River*, and must inevitably have perished, had not *John Bell* gone into the river after him, and brought him out, with the assistance of --- *Owen*, and *John Green*. The boy recovered by the method directed by the Society.

These men received the reward given by the Society, in consequence of the above note.

C A S E LXXIII. No. 19.

The following particulars were related to the Treasurer, by *Thomas Hatfield*, waterman, of *Bandy-Leg Walk*, *Southwark*. August 6, 1776.

William Jones, apprentice to Mr. *Birch*, of *Lambeth*, a waterman, having been up very late the preceding night, fell asleep across the scull, as he was carrying down the river eight baskets of earthen ware. The boat, near *Cuper's Bridge*, fell athwart a lighter-road, and immediately overfet; the unfortunate boy sunk twice, and as he rose the third time, was taken up by *Hatfield*, who had a fare in his boat, and rowed immediately to the boy's assistance. He was speechless and insensible, but by rolling him in the boat, and well shaking

him, in about *two minutes* he spoke, and gradually recovered, without any further assistance.

T. Hatfield, and some other watermen, brought the boy to Mr. *Hawes* for his advice, who ordered his wet clothes to be immediately pulled off, his body to be wiped dry, and to be put to bed for two or three hours.

The truth of the above narrative was certified by the Hon. — *Scott*, of *Chancery-Lane*, who happened to be witness to the transaction. *Hatfield* was accordingly rewarded.

C A S E LXXIV. No. 20.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. *Beaumont*.

“ S I R,

“ I have the happiness of adding another instance of success to those already recorded by this Society. The particulars of the Case are as follow :

“ On Friday the 9th of this month (August), between eleven and twelve at noon, a messenger came to desire I would go to the *Black Lyon* in *Charles Court*, where a boy was brought who had been just taken out of the *Thames*. I immediately went, and was conducted to a room, where the body lay (to all appearance dead) extended on a table on his belly, and his head hanging over the end of the table, and the persons around were shaking him, in order (as they said) to get the water out of him. This position being so pernicious, I caused him to be instantly turned, and his

his head and shoulders raised, and ordered the attendants, with all the expedition possible, to get his wet cloaths off (in which I assisted), and had the body wiped dry. I then had him conveyed to a bed (which I had previously directed to be made ready) and put between the blankets, which were made hot. Frictions with hot flannels and salt were used to the arms and legs by the attendants, and with a flannel dipt in hot brandy I rubbed his stomach, back, and neck, and applied volatiles to the nose and temples : his feet were also wrapped in hot flannels. By persisting in this method, in about *ten* minutes he began to shew signs of life, by sighing feebly, and in a little time he fetched a deep groan. I now got down, though with difficulty, a little warm brandy and water, and he seemed inclined to vomit. I thought it best to encourage this, and, by degrees, got him to swallow about half a pint of warm water, with salt in it, and he soon reached plentifully, and brought a great deal of bile off his stomach. His pulse now returned, he opened his eyes, and the body began to assume a natural warmth. His feet however still remained benumbed, but by keeping them wrapp'd in hot flannels, in about an hour they recovered their natural heat. Though he seemed better after the vomiting, he had not recovered his senses, for he spoke very incoherently, and did not know any one. As he seemed inclined to dose, I had him covered up warm; but in a few minutes he waked, and went into a strong convulsion fit, in which he struggled, so that four men could scarcely keep him in bed. He continued in this state above *two hours*, during which time I stayed and used the means necessary

on such occasions ; and at intervals I gave him suitable medicines. Before I left him, he vomited again, and then grew easy. I ordered him to be kept quiet, and I went home. In the evening I called, and learned he had slept several hours ; and when he awoke, was perfectly sensible, took food, and knew the people about him. He afterwards had a good night, and the next day was quite well.

His name is *Robert Chisholm*, he is apprentice to Mr. *Jenkins*, lighterman, at *Puddle-Deck*. He accidentally fell into the river as he was jumping off the side of a lighter into a skiff. He was under water above *ten minutes*, and when taken up was quite cold and motionless, his face much swoln, and his neck, breast, and inside of his thighs, quite livid.

Much praise is due to the two young men (watermen) who took him up ; for they moved two barges from the tier (which he was sucked under) and then stripped and dived twice before they could find him ; and when they did, he was so fast in the mud they could not raise him ; so they returned to their boat, and with their boat hook caught hold of his clothes and dragged him up, took him into the boat, and brought him by shore.

I am, Sir,

With much esteem and respect,

Your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN BEAUMONT."

York-Buildings, August 9, 1776.

The following persons being recommended by Mr. *Beaumont*, as entitled to the rewards of the Society,

Society, received them in the manner specified below :

Mr. *Samuel Wigg*, publican, who received the body into his house, One Guinea. *Thomas Holmes* and *Richard Buck*, two young men who took up the body and assisted in using the means, One Guinea each. *Mary Joyce* and *Elizabeth Dewy*, two women who likewise assisted, Half a Guinea each. *Jacob Miller*, who assisted in bringing the body on shore ; and *John Sheffield*, who assisted in using the means, Half a Guinea each. *Michael Foreman*, messenger to Mr. *Beaumont*, Half a Crown.

C A S E LXXV. No. 21.

To *James Horsfall*, Esq. Treasurer.

“ S I R,

“ The following narrative, with its occurrences, as well as I can collect them from the people attending on the occasion, joined to the account my apprentice gave me, will convey to you the case of the Girl apparently drowned on *Thursday* night (*August 8*) between *nine* and *ten* o'clock. A boy passing near the pond adjoining to Mr. *Weston's* stables at the *Brill*, heard an uncommon emotion in the water, of which he immediately informed Mrs. *Adams*, the mistress of the *Crown* public-house, from whence the several persons, as underwritten, ran to her assistance. They brought her out apparently dead. They say she continued so for *some minutes*. The directions, printed by order

der of the Society, furnished them with the information of the application of brandy made hot, which they had attended to before my apprentice arrived. He says, when he first saw her, her whole frame seemed convulsed, she vomited a considerable quantity of green stagnant water, her respiration was difficult, and, during his attendance, which was *two hours*, he saw but little hope of her recovery. She complained at intervals in the night, of being very thirsty. In the morning (being engaged the preceding evening in business) I visited her, and found her very sensible, but she complained of a palpitation of the heart; her tongue was somewhat foul, and pulse full. Her fever continuing the whole day, I am informed last night she was somewhat delirious; but think I may with propriety say, being just returned from visiting her, I now see no obstacle to her recovery.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

JAMES TAYLOR."

Red Lion-street, Saturday, August 10, 1776.

This unfortunate creature was only thirteen years of age; she had embezzled some money to the amount of 15 or 16 shillings, and afterwards fearing detection, and its consequent punishment, she was tempted to commit the horrid crime of suicide. Being sent to a publick house for some porter, she gave orders for the liquor, but, instead of returning home, threw herself into a dirty pond, full of chickweed. The place was so very deep, that nobody dared to venture into it. A ladder was at length procured, and a plank fastened

fastened to it, by treading upon which they were able, though with difficulty, to extricate her from the imminent danger she was in. The girl seemed at first, upon her recovery, obstinate and resolute, seeking to make another attempt upon herself with a knife; but by the benevolent interposition of Mrs. *Adams*, the girl's master forgave her, and she then appeared perfectly happy in her restoration.

The claimants of the rewards offered by the Society were Mrs. *Adams*, to whose house the body was conveyed; *Ralph Farley*, *William Turvey*, and *James Hogan* the messenger.

C A S E LXXVI. No. 22.

Sunday, August 18. *Edward Swan*, a journeyman orrize-weaver, aged 22 years, accidentally fell into the river *Thames* near *Surry Stairs*, in the *Strand*. *Christopher Matthews*, and *George Bowell*, who saw the disaster, put out their boats, and with their joint assistance took him up, after he had been about *two or three minutes* under the water. He shewed some signs of life when in the boat, though they were very feeble. He was conveyed to Mr. *Tburgar's*, at the sign of the *Cheshire Cheese*, where he was put into a warm bed, being by this time tolerably well recovered. A messenger, however, had been dispatched to Mr. *Buck*, the nearest Medical Assistant, who informs us, that he found the patient pale and cold, and his pulse very irregular. He persuaded him to drink some warm brandy and water, which, together with the warmth of the bed, soon diffused a kindly
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heat. After some time he found himself so well that he dressed himself, and, expressing his thanks for the care which had been taken of him, returned home.

The Publican and the watermen above-mentioned, as also a Messenger and Assistant, were satisfactorily recompensed. Mr. *Buck* having also strongly recommended *Daniel Kelly*, and *Joshua Seal*, two other watermen, who rowed with the utmost expedition to the place, in order to give their assistance, received from the Society a gratuity for their zeal.

C A S E LXXVII. No. 23.

To *James Horsfall*, Esq. Treasurer.

“ S I R, *Strand*, August 19, 1776.

“ The bearer, who says his name is *Daniel Westrove*, on *Saturday* night, between six and seven o’clock, saved a child (*William Sykes*, aged six or seven years, son of *Leonard Sykes*, waterman, at *Lambeth*) from being drowned. I trouble you upon this application, as he informs me there is a reward for the saving any person’s life. I think, had he been half a minute later, the child must have been inevitably lost, having sunk two or three times.

I am, Sir, your’s,

PHILIP BUCKLEY,

Floor Cloth Painter, *Strand*.

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The foregoing I declare to be true, being a passenger in the boat when the child was taken up.

J. MOUSLEY, Jeweller,

No. 31, Gutter-lane.

C A S E LXXVIII. No. 24.

Monday, August 19. Paul Oldfield, a waterman, aged 40 years, living at Lambeth, being seized with a fit, fell over the side of his boat into the river Thames. R. Pocock, who saw the accident, immediately put off to his assistance; and as the body was rising up he caught hold of the leg, but the weight of the body was so great, and his own posture so unfavourable, that he was obliged to leave his hold in order to save himself from being drowned. He then called out for farther help, and three other watermen, viz. John Grace, James Brookman, and John Foster, rowed up to him; and by their joint efforts they were able to heave the body into Pocock's boat. It is imagined that the subject must have been more than five minutes under the surface of the water: and when taken up he appeared dead, being both speechless and insensible. He foamed however considerably at the mouth. He was carried in this state to his own house, which happened to be near the spot. The four men above-mentioned used the methods recommended by the Society with the greatest diligence and care. In about three quarters of an hour he heaved a deep sigh; afterwards groaned terribly, and then uttered the words, Oh dear! two or three times in a low voice. At this time Mr. Burgess, the Medical Assistant at Lambeth,

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arrived,

arrived, who ordered the men to continue the frictions for the space of *half an hour* longer; which they did with so much success, that the signs of recovery considerably encreased. He was still in so great danger, that Mr. *Burgess* having prescribed proper remedies, ordered two persons to sit up with him all night. Mr. *Burgess* learned, when he called in the morning, that the man had been in a high delirium and fever the greater part of the night; which, tho' abated, were not as yet totally removed. The fever continued *two or three days*, but finally yielding to medicine, the man afterwards recovered his health entirely.

The watermen, whose names we have already mentioned, were very strongly recommended by Mr. *Burgess*, not only for the eagerness they discovered (as he was informed by several witnesses) to get the body out of the water, but for the care, assiduity and skill with which they used the means. They received accordingly the promised rewards.

C A S E LXXIX. No. 25.

Monday, Aug. 19. As ——— *Williams*, (son of Mr. *Williams*, who keeps the *Castle Eating-house, George and Vulture Passage, Cornhill*) a lad about ten or twelve years of age, was playing among the vessels which lay off *Coal-harbour-stairs*, he fell from the side of a lighter into the water, under an opposite barge. *John Goodacre*, a waterman, belonging to one of the Fire-offices, being advertised of the accident by the general outcry, as he was sitting at the door of an adjacent publick house, ran immediately to the place, jumped

jumped into the river, and saved the lad, at the hazard of his own life, being particularly incommoded by the size and weight of his badge.

The above account was given to Mr. *Horsfall* by *Goodacre* himself, and confirmed by Mr. *W. Harryman*, merchant, who was witness to the transaction, in a note he sent to the Treasurer.

This is the *second* instance in which *John Goodacre* has been instrumental, by his courage and assiduity, of saving a life, endangered by a similar accident: [see Reports, 1775, Case 40]. He was rewarded by the Treasurer.

C A S E LXXX. No. 26.

The following singular instance of recovery was communicated to us by Mr. *Blount*, Medical Assistant, in a letter addressed to the Secretary of the Society.

“ S I R,

“ I have taken the liberty of sending you an account of a case which yesterday fell under my inspection. *Ann Pearson*, a young woman, about twenty-eight years of age, very big with child, of a corpulent habit of body, accidentally fell into the *Thames*, opposite *St. Catherine's-stairs*. By the account I received from those persons who assisted in taking her up, they imagine she must have been under water for the space of *three minutes*. When I first saw her, she was lying in a boat at the water's edge, quite motionless, no pulsation was perceptible, neither could we observe any respiration.

I am,

I immediately desired they would convey her to a public-house, near at hand, the *Black Boy and Trumpet*, the master of which, Mr. *Loutit*, very humanely received her, and gave us every assistance in his power. Her wet clothes were as soon as possible stript off, and the methods laid down by the Society applied. In the space of *half an hour*, I could just perceive a pulsation at the wrist, upon which I immediately opened a vein, the blood at first only trickled down the arm, but in some little time flowed very freely; just at that instant she fetched a deep sigh, and began to have some motion; volatiles were then applied to her nose, and spirits of hartshorn rubbed on her temples. By pursuing these methods, I had the happiness to find her recovery not in the least doubtful. She fell into the water about six o'clock, and was so well recovered by *nine*, as to be able to walk with an assistant, to her friend's house. The names under-mentioned, were the people who assisted in bringing the body on shore. *John Herring, Henry Brown, John Moore, and James Connell.*

“ I am, Sir,

“ Your most obedient humble servant,

“ JOHN BLOUNT, Surgeon,

“ Near St. Catherine's-stairs, by the

“ Tower.”

August 27, 1776.

The men were paid one guinea each, being the reward offered by the Society.

CASE

C A S E LXXXI. No. 27.

The following very extraordinary case must appear peculiarly interesting to every friend to the cause of humanity. It was transmitted to our Treasurer, by Mr. *Jarvis*, one of our Medical Assistants.

“ *Ann Ruffel*, aged 25 Years, was observed by some men at a distance, to throw herself into the *Thames*, from a wharf, near *York-Buildings*, Sept. 20. It being low water, she failed in that attempt, but she got up, ran through the mud a considerable way, and then committed the same melancholy act again. The place was yet shallow, and instead of being drowned, she may rather be said to have been *suffocated*, by being buried in the soft mud. The persons that saw her were some watermen of *Hungerford*, viz. *Henry Smith*, *Jeremiah Cox*, *John Pennycook*, and *George Dawson*. They immediately made to the place, and with the greatest difficulty got her out. In this dismal situation she was brought to a public-house, and laid upon a bench, covered with mud. But as the populace would have it that she was dead, they then carried her to *St. Martin's Workhouse*, where she was immediately received, and the Governor and Matron, very kindly, and with the greatest expedition, had her conveyed up to one of the wards.

“ Messengers were immediately dispatched to my worthy friend, Mr. *Harding*, the apothecary to the house, and myself, and in a very few minutes

minutes Mr. *Beaumont*, my brother Medical Assistant, arrived. We all agreed to use the means recommended by the Society, though there was little prospect of success, as near an *hour* passed from the time of the accident; she was to all appearance past recovery, being cold and quite insensible. We persevered, however, in our endeavours, and in about *half an hour*, we observed a weak pulse, a diffused warmth, and other symptoms of returning life. The means were continued with the greatest diligence, but the pulse being extremely low, the breathing greatly oppressed, and other alarming symptoms appearing, Mr. *Harding* proposed some cordial medicines, which were administered, and in about *two hours* she appeared out of danger, and was perfectly sensible in the evening. In two or three days she was tolerably well recovered, except a desponding state of mind, which gradually wore off in consequence of the very kind treatment she received from the Master, and every person in the house. She continued there for a *month*, and was then clothed and discharged.

“ I am thoroughly convinced, Sir, that the poor creature would have been lost to the world, if it had not been for the establishment of the Humane Society, as nothing but the hopes of the reward would have induced the men to have taken so much pains, at the hazard of their own lives, to save the woman from perishing.

“ I am, Sir,

“ With great respect,

“ Your obedient humble servant,

“ HENRY JARVIS,

“ Surgeon to St. Martin's Workhouse.”

It

It is with the utmost pleasure we subjoin the following Postscript, nor can we doubt but that so humane and laudable an example will be attended to by other parishes.

“ P. S. It would be an act of injustice in me, not to acquaint you, Sir, of the extraordinary kindness and humanity of Messrs. *Capel* and *Phillips*, the Church-wardens; Mr. *Penner*, Mr. *Sherwin*, Mr. *Gardner*, Mr. *Lascells*, and Mr. *Holroyd*, the Overseers of *St. Martin's in the Fields*. These worthy gentlemen have given positive orders for every drowned person to be immediately admitted into the house, and during the present year two women have been brought in, and happily went out alive and well. Our worthy Officers also made daily enquiries about the above unfortunate person, gave strict orders for her to be taken care of, and when discharged, not only gave her necessaries, but the kindest advice; for which the poor woman expressed the utmost gratitude.

C A S E LXXXII. No. 28.

The particulars of the following instance of preservation, were sent us by Mr. *Hole*, of *Islington*.

“ On *Monday* last, about nine o'clock in the evening, *Elizabeth Henfrel*d, living at the *Camden's-Head*, was pushed into the *New River*, opposite the *Ladies Boarding-school*, in *Colebrook-*
G
Row,

Row, Islington, and must inevitably have been lost, had it not been for *Mary Addison*, the bearer, a servant at the school, who fortunately was in the garden, and hearing the cries of a person in distress, came immediately to the River before the house, where she found the person above-mentioned, almost spent, having been twice under water. She luckily laid hold of her, and called for further assistance, when her fellow-servant, *Elizabeth Bairbridge* came, and they together preserved her life. She was carried to the *Camden's-Head*, where every necessary care was taken of her, and she is now perfectly recovered.

“ I am, Sir,

“ Your most humble servant,

“ JOHN HOLE.”

We afterwards learned, that this poor girl had just quitted her service, and that a man attempting to rob her of a bundle of clothes she had with her, she crept under a rail, by the edge of the river, in order to avoid him, when he kicked her into the water. She was carried to the sign of the *Camden's-Head, Islington*, where she was not only treated with all possible care, but is also retained as a servant in the house.

The servant, *Mary Addison*, received a guinea for her humanity.

C A S E LXXXIII. No. 29.

In consequence of the following note, one guinea was given to the bearer.

“ Gentlemen,

“ THE bearer, *John Jennings*, is the person who jump't into the *New River*, and took out *John Mattocks*, (whose mother lives in No. 4, *Britannia-Row, Islington*) a child about eight years old, just as he was sinking, and in all probability saved him from being drowned.

“ I do not know, Gentlemen, if there is any reward given by you for such service; if there is, I hope he will merit your favour.

“ I am, Gentlemen,

“ Your very humble servant,

“ JOHN GRACE.”

P. S. The under-written were witnesses to the fact; a Gentleman at Mr. *Holmes's*, the *Lower-steeet, Islington*; Mr. *Edward Bowman*, of *Hoxton*; Mr. *Irwin*, of the *Thatched-House*; and my son, *Edward James Grace*.

C A S E LXXXIV. No. 30.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. *Corney*, the Gentleman who was so fortunate as to recover *James Becket*, (see Case 6th of Reports for the year 1774)

“ Gentlemen,

“ I was this day, at half past two o’clock, sent for to assist a poor man, named *Dennis Sullivan*, a porter employed by *Christian Henekan*, Esq; slave merchant, in *Mill Street*, in the Parish of *St. Mary Magdalen, Bermondsey*; his abode *Kent Street*. On my arrival, I found the poor object at a public house, the sign, *Prince of Orange*, in *Mill Street*. Upon enquiry, was inform’d, that he had been removed there near *one hour*; that he had fallen from a plank into the river in carrying his usual load of staves, where the water was near *ten feet deep*; that he never arose; and after the computed space of *four or five minutes*, he was raised by the assistance of a boat-hook, which *Thomas Slater*, a waterman, used for that purpose. The said *Slater* having attended me on a similar occasion, (when *Becket*, the waterman, was restored,) with great care, used the friction with salt, applied brandy to the temples, and warm flannels to the body. Several Medical Gentlemen who lived nearer the place than myself, were sent for, but were absent; and the above *Slater* recollecting me, took his boat, and came to my house. I immediately went with him, and on my arrival discovered the patient laid on blankets near the fire, and a great number of spectators in the room, which obstructed the Assistants from

from performing their office, and prevented the freedom of circulating air. I directly dismissed this useless croud, and ordered the patient to be wiped quite clean, and the friction with warm flannel, &c. to be continued, and in a short time he attempted to speak, but was interrupted by frequent groans, and vomitings; the pulsation returned, but appeared weak and irregular. By this time, two Medical Gentlemen who had been sent for, arrived, and we unitedly agreed to have him removed to bed; this was effected with the greatest care, and by continuing the flannels, and giving him some brandy and water, which he drank with some difficulty, he became sensible, and answered me several questions with ease and pertinence; he complained of cold, and I ordered him more blankets, and left him under the care of the woman of the house, and one or two of the Assistants, who seemed very tender of him; I ordered these persons to watch him, and to let me hear in less than one hour the state he was in; one of them came punctually, and informed me he was perfectly sensible, and a purging had come on, and he had voided three or four quarts by that evacuation, and seemed much better. About five o'clock I gave him another visit, and he appeared perfectly sensible, and complained of great thirst: I ordered him weak brandy and water, made warm, which he took in his hand and drank, and told me he had no pain, but seemed faint. I applied my hand to several parts of his body, and perceived a tolerable warmth, even in the extremities; and as that faintness still continued, I gave him three spoonfulls of a weak julep, with a few drops of Spt. Volat. Aromat. and left him in all appearance, exempt from

from danger. But I have been informed, that about half an hour after, he requested more brandy and water, and without convulsion, or any violent spasm, expired.

“ I am sorry for the event: the effects of the mode pursued by your laudable Society, are even in this case, though unsuccessful, exemplified; because I apprehend, as the man was so far relieved, if his constitution had not been reduced by poverty and hard labour, he would have been perfectly restored.

“ It gives me infinite pleasure to hear success so frequently attends your institution; and shall at all times exert my poor abilities to promote so laudable and truly Humane Society.

I am, with great sincerity,

Your obedient servant,

THOMAS CORNEY, *Surgeon,*

St. John's, Southwark.”

September, 26, 1776.

P. S. Notwithstanding this unfortunate issue, the following persons were deemed equally entitled to our rewards, which were accordingly paid them by the Treasurer.

Mr. Russel, the Publican; Thomas Slater, Robert Smith, Joseph Bley, and Alexander Crew.

C A S E LXXXV. No. 31.

Colchester, September 3d, 1776.

The following Case comes under the same predicament as that communicated from *Henley*: The Society having extended their rewards to the Town which was the place of the accident.

In the beginning of last month, as *Thomas Orlibar*, a lad about twelve years of age was bathing in the river, at *Manningtree*, the tide imperceptibly drew him into the deep water; he lost his footing, and sunk. The alarm was soon given, and some people hastened to his assistance; and in about a *quarter of an hour* from the time he lost his footing, he was found in about *six feet* depth of water, without any appearance of life. The body was brought to the shore, and in consequence of our advertisements, &c. Mr. *Rogers* was immediately sent for: till he arrived, they began shaking and rolling the body about, and rubbing him with salt; there then appeared some faint signs of returning life. Upon Mr. *Rogers's* arrival he ordered him to be carried home, had him put between two warm blankets, and rubbed him well with warm baize dipped in brandy, down the spine, sides, &c. applying a piece of the same, well wetted, to the stomach; and pursued the other methods recommended by the Society. He gradually recovered, and seemed at first to be in great agonies. When able to speak, he complained of great pains in his stomach, sides and body, and appeared

appeared very comatose ; was exceedingly cold, particularly his extremities ; his pulse was very low, and unequal. The methods were pursued till a fine perspiration came on ; an enema was then administered ; which appeared to relieve him very much ; he recovered very fast, and the next day was perfectly well.

Mr. *Rogers* observes that he was carried to his own house ; that the persons who assisted in the recovery, were only two or three old women, besides his apprentice, and the apprentice of a neighbouring practitioner ; and that during his lifeless stay on the quay or wharf, it would be almost impossible to single out three people who regularly assisted, besides the person who took him up ; he therefore leaves the matter of gratuity to the Society.

The Premium given by the Society was transmitted to Mr. *Rogers*, who disposed of it in a manner satisfactory to the parties.

C A S E LXXXVI. No. 32.

Copy of a Letter from *James Horsfall*, Esq; Treasurer of the Society, to the Compiler of these Reports.

“ S I R,

“ The following Case fell under my own cognizance only, without the interference of any other Member of the Society.

“ *Geo. Edward Wilkins*, aged 12, belonging to the *Grey Coat Hospital* in *Totbill-fields*, was walking on the edge of a coal lighter at *White Friars Stairs*, between two and three in the afternoon on
Friday

Friday the 25th inst. and by some accident fell over-board, unobserved by any one.

“ Providentially, *Charles Maynard*, a waterman, was rowing his boat down the river, and espied the boy’s cap; and presently after, he thought he saw one of the arms emerge above the surface of the water: This induced him to hasten to the spot, where he soon perceived the boy under water. He immediately got him into his boat with very little signs of life; however, by the time he had rowed him ashore, he was so far recovered as to be sensible of the loss of his cap.

“ The waterman, without delay, brought him to me at my chambers dripping wet, and exceeding cold and shivering. I found there was no occasion for medical art—that warmth was the only requisite: I therefore prepared him some hot brandy and water; and finding that his mother (a widow with six children) lived so near as *Chancery-lane*, I sent him home, under the care of the waterman, with orders that he should be immediately stripped and put into a warm bed; which, being accordingly done, he was the next day well.

“ The time he had been in the water cannot be ascertained, as nobody saw or heard him fall in.

“ I am, with great esteem,

“ Dear Sir,

“ Your most humble

“ And obedient Servant,

“ J^s. HORSFALL.”

Middle Temple, 27th Oct.

1776.

“ P. S. The waterman received the reward of one guinea.”

C A S E LXXXVII. No. 33.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. *Vaux*, Medical Assistant, addressed to the Society.

Gentlemen,

“ T H E number of persons who work on the *Thames*, from *London Bridge* to the *Tower*, afford too frequent instances of the necessity of attending persons drowned. My vicinity to these places, and being generally known to the inhabitants, account for my frequently being called to the relief of many persons in this distressed situation; out of this number many have recovered. A late instance of success I shall here relate.

“ *Jane Wright*, was a few days since taken out of the *Thames*, to appearance dead. I ordered a bed to be warmed, had her wet clothes instantly removed, her body dried with warm flannels, and put into the bed. After continuing the frictions for some time, froth issued from her mouth, thro’ the interstices of her teeth, but her jaw was immovably fixed. Her pulse at this time was just perceptible: the frictions were still continued, and a stimulating clyster was thrown up. The signs of life were now more apparent; sinapisms were applied to her feet, and the warmth was constantly kept up. Before I left her the circulation was restored, and her respiration tolerably free; yet she could not speak, notwithstanding her utmost efforts. She continued speechless for some days, but her voice at length returned. There was a wildness in her look, and pain in the head, for
which

which she was cupped, had a purge or two, with some other medicines, by the help of which she perfectly recovered."

We have further learned, that this unhappy creature is of good character; that she had thrown herself into the water, having been (upon her return from service) stripped of all her clothes, and turned out of doors by her inhuman step-mother: that the person whose place she had quitted, in consequence of some trifling quarrel, was so affected by these incontestible marks of the girl's deep distress, that she cheerfully offered to take her again into service; and that she is now in a situation to procure an honest livelihood.

C A S E LXXXVIII. No. 34.

"ON *Wednesday* the 13th of *November* last, as *Elizabeth Taylor*, a poor woman, (subject to fits) was washing her milk pail at the side of the *New River*, she fell in, and must inevitably have been drowned, had it not been for the immediate assistance of *Richard Potter* and *Michael Higgins*, who drew her out.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant.

The above account was sent us by Mr. *Hole* of *Islington*. He also recommended two other persons who had given their assistance. They were all satisfactorily rewarded.

C A S E LXXXIX. No. 35.

It will be necessary to inform the Reader, that this and the following Cases refer to the same accident. A *Woolwich* Hoy, with *eight* passengers on board, was sunk by a large vessel in the middle of the *Thames*. *Four* of these unfortunate persons were carried down the stream and lost; nor have they, as far as we can learn, been ever found. *One* was taken up and conveyed on shore at *Wapping*; the other three were carried to *Rotherhithe*. We shall leave the reader to make his own reflections upon so happy a preservation of such a considerable number, and proceed to narrate the particulars as far as they have been communicated to us by the Medical Gentlemen on each side the water.

Substance of a Letter from Mr. *Henry Pierce*.

“ S I R,

“ LAST *Thursday* evening, *November 28*, a small boat, with *eight* passengers and *two* watermen, going down the river, was overset off *Wapping New Stairs*. One of the persons, (the *Wife* of *John Patrick*, a shipwright belonging to the Navy yard at *Woolwich*), was taken up senseless, and brought to a public house (*Black Boy* and *Waterman's Arms*) at the corner of the stairs. I was sent for immediately, and found her in a sitting posture, on a table, supported by the persons who had carried her from the water side. She

She was cold and insensible, struggling, as it seemed, to get off the table. Some warm brandy and water was ordered ; and in the mean time she was removed near the fire, and spoke confusedly. After desiring the mistress of the house to put her to bed between two warm blankets, I left her. Mr. *Skarrow*, my assistant, saw her again about two hours afterwards, and found her very faint : a cordial mixt with Sal. C. C. Vol. was sent. She had a good night, and next morning was well, but sore from the bruises received, by being dragged over the side of the boat. Mrs. *Dixon* and her daughter, who keep the public house, also the persons who assisted, acted with great willingness and alacrity.—*Bowman* and *Myles* took the woman up ; *Robinson* and *Flowers* assisted in carrying her to the house, as they told me, quite cold, insensible, and without the least sign of life. *Flowers* is the person also who came for me.—Perhaps it may be thought necessary to pay each person (who may be thought entitled to any gratuity) separately, to prevent any kind of imposition.

Wapping,

“ I am, Sir, &c.

Saturday Evening,

“ J. HARVEY PIERCE.”

Nov. 30, 1776.

These persons were paid the Rewards of this Society.

C A S E X C. No. 36, 37, 38.

Coppy of a Letter from Mr. *Maddox*.

“ S I R, *Rotherhithe, Nov. 30, 1776.*

“ T H E bearer, Mr. *Anderson*, is a Publican of *Rotherhithe*, who very humanely admitted into his house, the three following persons, (who had been unfortunately run down by a failing boat, on the river, last *Thursday* evening, as they were going in a passage boat to *Woolwich*), viz. Mrs. *Beck*, aged fifty years; Mrs. *Ann Bucking*, 24 years; and Mrs. *Campble*, aged 55 years, wife to Mr. *Campble*, Purser of his Majesty's ship the *Crescent*, at *Woolwich*, to whom she was going. They were all taken up by boats, which luckily were near when the accident happened, so that Mrs. *Beck* and *Bucking* were only slightly bruised; but Mrs. *Campble*, when brought on shore, to the above publican's house, was, *by the testimony of many people, to all appearance dead*. Mrs. *Anderson* immediately stript her of her wet clothes, wrapt her in a warm blanket, and sent for me. As I was at home, I immediately went, and found her so far recovered as to speak, tho' unintelligibly, very cold, and her pulse so very languid, that, notwithstanding she breathed with great difficulty, I thought it most prudent not to bleed her, but laid a thick cloth dipt in brandy all over her breast and stomach, and would have given her some brandy to drink, but she could not swallow it. She was immediately put to bed between warm blankets, well covered

covered with clothes, and hot bricks were put to her hands and feet. I then endeavoured to give her some warm brandy and water, but she could not yet swallow it. She faltered much in her speech, and was so very cold, with hardly any pulse to be felt, that I was apprehensive she would die. A little mulled wine was now with great difficulty got down, and I directed Mrs. Anderson to supply her with it, very often. I then went home and sent her a warm cordial mixture by my apprentice, who found her a little warmer, and supping some of the wine as I had directed. He visited her again between ten and eleven o'clock, found her still warmer, and her breathing better. The next day she was so far recovered, as to proceed to *Woolwich*.

“ Mrs. *Beck* not being far from home, went away the same evening; but Mrs. *Bucking* was provided with a warm bed, and every other necessary till the next day.

“ The above Mrs. *Campble* is the person brought on shore by *Thomas East*, as mentioned in a letter sent by him the other day.

“ I can assure you that every thing was done on the part of Mr. and Mrs. *Anderson* with the greatest readiness and humanity.

“ I am, Sir,

“ Your humble servant,

“ WM. MADDUX.”

All the parties concerned in this act of humanity, were amply rewarded.

C A S E XCI. No. 39.

November 28, 1776.

Peter Blois, a French mariner, fell from the side of his ship into the *Thames*, and remained some time under the bottom of the vessel. *John Hill*, a waterman, seeing the accident, immediately rowed to the place, from whence, providentially, he was at no great distance, and drew him from under the vessel with his boat hook, and brought him on shore in his own boat. He says, that at first he thought him dead, but he began to groan before they reached the shore, and with very little care and attention, the man was perfectly recovered.

Mr. Bill, a gentleman of *Mr. Horsfall's* acquaintance, told him personally that he was witness to the above facts; and upon his evidence, *Hill* received a Guinea.

C A S E XCII. No. 40.

To the *Treasurer* of the *Humane Society*.

“ S I R, *Islington, Dec. 2, 1776.*

“ I HAVE now the pleasure to communicate to you one more Case of Recovery from Drowning; the circumstances of which, be pleased to accept as follows:

“ Between

“ Between seven and eight o’clock yesterday morning, a messenger came to tell me that a woman was just taken out of the river to all appearance dead ; tho’ she was seen walking by the river about *five minutes* before. I went immediately to her assistance ; and by the time I arrived at that place, I learned that they had removed her to the *Spotted Dog alehouse, Islington*. When I first saw her, she began to breathe a little, but was completely cold all over : I could perceive no pulsation any where, not even at the *heart*, and she seemed to have no consciousness. Her respiration was performed with the greatest difficulty, and apparent pain. As the animal machine was evidently recovering its motion apace, I judged *warmth* would complete her recovery ; I therefore ordered her to be put into a warm bed, and applied flannels, wetted with hot brandy, to her breast, which soon relieved her difficulty of breathing. I now got down a little warm brandy and water. She began to speak ; her pulse was perceptible ; warmth returned ; and after a few strong convulsive fits, she fell into a sound sleep, which completed the cure.

“ She says her name is *Mary Cooper* ; that it was an act of suicide ; and that she was driven to it by extreme poverty, not having eaten any thing for *three days*.

“ She was taken out of the water by Mr. *Ware*, who lives with Mr. *Bolton*, Pawnbroker, in *Aldersgate-street*, who very humanely desired, that whatever reward was due to him from the Society, might be given to this unhappy creature.

“ She is now in our workhouse, where she will be taken good care of till she can get employment, being very willing to work. The persons meriting reward are as follow :

“ Mr. *Ware*, who took her out ; *Dennis Leo* who assisted in bringing her in ; *Patrick Bolf* was the messenger ; *James Brockel* assisted a little ; *Nathaniel Clifton* assisted in her recovery ; and Mr. *Madan*, at the *Spotted Dog*, received her into his house, and furnished necessaries.

“ I am happy in having it in my power to add this case to the many who owe their lives to the Humane Society, and am,

“ With great respect,

“ Sir,

“ Your very humble servant,

“ JOHN CHURCH.”

The case of this girl was remarkably unfortunate. While she was in service, she wounded one of her legs with a bit of glass, which being neglected, the inflammation rose so high as to endanger the loss of the limb. She put herself under the care of a surgeon, who very humanely gave his attention *gratis*. But during this time she was not only out of place, but was obliged to pawn all her clothes for an immediate subsistence. When cured, she found herself totally destitute of friends, money, and clothes ; and in a fit of despair, determined to put an end to her miserable existence. Mr. *Church* took the trouble to enquire into her character at the place where she had formerly lived, and found it an unexceptionable one. We have the pleasure to add, that that event has turned out singularly

gularly fortunate for the object. Mr. *Church* having perfectly satisfied the assisting parties, (who were not entitled to the full reward) had saved about *fifty shillings* of the money paid into his hands by the Treasurer ; which, by the unanimous desire of the Society were given to her. This sum, together with the *guinea* Mr. *Ware* had so generously ordered to be appropriated to her use, enabled her to redeem her clothes, and procure a place as servant.

C A S E X C I I I . No. 42.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. *Church*.

“ S I R, *Islington, December 17, 1776.*

“ I am now to inform you, that on Saturday last, about six in the evening, *Judith Lowe* threw herself into the pond opposite to the Old *London Spa*. She was heard to groan by *Henry Taylor*, as he was passing by, who immediately jumped in, and with much difficulty got her out. She was not dead, but totally insensible, and continued so for *twenty minutes* ; during which time, a messenger was dispatched to me. I happened to be from home, but Mr. *Clifton*, my assistant, went. He found her perfectly cold, and breathing with great difficulty, though she had recovered her speech. He used the means directed by our Society, which were attended with success in less than an hour.

“ Mr. *Horne*, the bearer, who keeps the Old *London Spa*, received her with great humanity and tenderness. The other parties deserving re-

ward, are *Henry Taylor*, who took her out, and came for me; *James Fannell*, who assisted in carrying her into the house; *Mary Manwaring*, and *Rebecca Atkins*, who assisted in stripping her.

“ I have the honour to be,

“With great respect,

"Sir,

“Your very humble servant,

"JOHN CHURCH,"

A SUMMARY View of the UNSUCCESSFUL CASES, for which the SOCIETY have paid the PREMIUMS in the Year 1776.

No.	Date	Subject	Places of, or adjacent to the Accidents	Length of Time under Water.
1	February 16,	An elderly Woman, Name unknown,	New River, Islington,	Unknown.
2	March 12,	Andrew Donaldson, aged 21,	Thames, Shadwell,	Twenty Minutes.
3	— 12,	Alexander Duncan, a young Man, —	Thames, Shadwell,	Twenty Minutes.
4	April 3,	Henry Chapman, aged 12,	Thames, Deptford,	Three Hours.
5	— 14,	A Lad, aged 15, —	Thames, Shadwell,	From ten to fifteen Minutes.
6	May 15,	A young Woman, —	A Ditch, Shadwell,	{ N. B. Intoxicated. One Hour.

* According to the Rules of this Society, the assistants could not claim any Reward, as the body was in the water longer than the time specified; but as assistance was immediately given, and several persons continued looking for the body so long a time, they were justly deemed worthy of the premiums.

We cannot omit mentioning, to the honour of Mrs. Knight, the Publican, who received the body into her house, that she not only supplied every requisite article, but generously gave the premium paid her by the Society, to the poor and disconsolate mother, to assist her in defraying the expence of the funeral.

No.	Date	Subjects.	Places of, or adjacent to the Accident.	Length of Time under Water.
7	May 18,	A Child, aged 7, —	A Pond, near Islington, —	Half an Hour.
8	June 3,	Adam Robinson, —	Brentford, —	Not known.
9	— 4,	William Wilkes, —	Thames, Wapping, —	{ Ten Minutes.
10	— —	John Hoyder, —	{ Thames, near Black-fri-	{ N. B. Fell from the top of a mast
11	— 8,	Charles Dean, —	{ ar's Surry Side, —	Unknown.
12	— 21,	William Barnes, —	{ Thames, near Fulham-bridge,	Near two Hours.
13	July 14,	Elizabeth Hawkins, —	{ Thames, near London-	About twenty Minutes.
14	— 16,	Master Brent, aged 14, —	{ bridge, Surry Side, —	Near an Hour.
15	— 21,	A Woman, aged 70, —	In a Cistern, Colchester, —	Not known.
16	— 22,	John Hall, —	Thames, near Chelsea, —	Supposed between 2 and 3 Hours
17	— 28,	John Barrington, —	Thames, near Garlick-hill, —	An Hour.
18	August 2,	A Man, aged 25, —	Thames, near Battersea, —	{ Unknown.
19	— —	Gerard Leigh, a young Man, —	River Lee, —	{ N. B. About an Hour before
			Thames, Rotherhithe, —	Assistance could be procured.
			Thames, near Westminster-bridge, —	About half an Hour.
				Upwards of half an Hour.
				No.

No.	Date	Subject.	Places of, or adjacent to the Accident.	Length of Time under Water.
20	August 2,	John Thompson,	{ Thames, near London- bridge, Surry Side, }	About 16 Minutes.
21	— 3,	Watson, aged 33,	Thames, Strand, —	About an Hour.
22	— 4,	Newton, a Girl, aged 7,	Colchester, —	Quarter of an Hour.
23	—	George Sedwick, aged 40,	Thames, near Wapping, —	Between 40 and 50 Minutes.
24	September 4,	Joseph Milbourn, aged 5,	A Pond, Rotherhithe, —	Missed an Hour.
25	— 5,	Read, aged 12,	New River, Islington, —	Half an Hour*.
26	— 12,	Timothy White, aged 12,	A Pond, Clapton, —	More than half an Hour.
27	— 13,	Ann Morris, aged 10,	Thames, Deptford, —	Missed upwards of an hour and half
28	— 13,	Henry Warner, aged 21,	{ Thames, by the Compa- ny's, Lime Wharf, }	About 20 Minutes.
29	— 16,	George Mode, a young Man, —	Thames, Deptford, —	N. B. One o'clock in the Morning Fifteen Minutes.
30	— 23,	Name unknown,	Thames, near Billingsgate,	{ N. B. Much intoxicated. Five Minutes.
31	October 4,	George Dodson, —	Thames, Limehouse, —	{ N. B. Contusion in the Head. Twenty Minutes.

* This unhappy lad was seen to fall into the river by a wretch, whose name is *John Hatchet*, and who stood by the spot a witness to his agony, without either offering, or even calling, for assistance!

This accident happened late at night, and proper assistance was not procured in less than three hours; a contusion was also observed upon the head.

COMMUNICATED CASES.

In publishing the communicated Cases, we shall begin with those transmitted to us by Dr. *Houlston*, a very active Member of the Society, established at *Liverpool*, as the first Case is of prior date to any of the others.

C A S E XCIV. No. I.

Extract of a Letter from Dr. *Houlston*.

On *Saturday, March 23, 1776*, between 11 and 12 at night, one *Robert Lunt*, a cowkeeper, in easy circumstances, a bulky old man, being in liquor, fell into the *Dock*; he was heard to fall in, and in rather less than *ten minutes* was got out, seemingly dead. Some very faint signs of life however appeared after a short time, and he was carried to the receiving house: but these were found to have diminished during his removal.

There he was put to bed, and frictions and warmth were assiduously applied. Mr. *Shertcliffe* was sent for, who came immediately; he was soon assisted by Mr. *Lyon*. In about a quarter of an hour from the accident, which was as soon as any pulse could be perceived, a vein was opened, which at first did not bleed; as was likewise the jugular. A stimulating glyster was also given him, and in about half an hour he came a little to himself, and spoke; and with proper care (which was continued till eight in the morning) he recovered perfectly;

fectly ; though it was long before the natural warmth returned.

The reward was distributed amongst the four men who had brought and assisted him.

C A S E XCV. No. 2.

Extract of a Letter, &c.

Philip Smith, an invalid, being intoxicated, fell into the *Old Dock, Liverpool* ; and was taken out in less than *five minutes*. He was soon able to walk to the receiving house, where he was put to bed, and *Mr. Lyon* immediately came to his assistance. He remained so very cold all night, that it was thought necessary for some of the surgeon's pupils to sit up with him. - However at length he perfectly recovered.

C A S E XCVI. No. 3.

Extract of a Letter, &c.

William Roberts, a stout man, 45 years old, a salt heaver, being a little in liquor, fell from the side of the *Brothers*, a timber ship, (the height of one story) into the *Salt-house-Dock, Liverpool*, about half after 4 o'Clock, on *Monday* afternoon, *August 5, 1776*. He very soon sunk from the weight of his wet clothes, and remained under water, as near as can be guessed by some gentlemen present, *six* or *seven* minutes. They assert, that when taken out of the water (by the dexterity of a sailor on board the ship) he shewed not the least sign of

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life. He was speedily and carefully conveyed on a plank to the Receiving-house, and notice was sent to the Medical Assistants, Dr. *Houlston*, and Mr. *Parker*, who came immediately, and they were soon followed by Dr. *Dobson*. In the mean time, he was stripped and rubbed well by those around him. On the arrival of two surgical pupils, some pulsation being observable, a vein was opened, and three ounces of blood were obtained. Further assistance being soon procured, and the means continued, there were other evident signs of returning life. When I saw him, says Dr. *Houlston*, which was about half an hour from his falling in, the pulse was very perceptible, though weak and fluttering; the breathing difficult, the heat much less than natural, the eye set and glassy, with evident signs of oppression of the brain. A glyster of salt and water was given, and in part retained; three ounces more blood were taken away, and the heat of the body was kept up by warm coverings, and hot bricks applied to feet, &c. whilst proper care was taken for the admission of pure air. The pulse grew stronger, and more regular; so did the breathing; though I could perceive both at times, much interrupted by spasm. By means of your fumigator, the tobacco smoke was thrown up into the intestines: the Volatile Alkali also was frequently applied to the nostrils and temples. A few spoonfuls of warm wine-whey were given, and swallowed, as also two of a dilute solution of Tartar Emetic, which however did not promote vomiting. On his losing (about eight o'clock) three ounces more blood, the pulse grew full and regular, the heat increased, whilst the spasms and difficulty of breathing lessened. He seemed then inclined

clined to sleep, and perspired a little. In this situation he remained till a quarter past nine, when he first gave a rational answer, and expressed a desire to go to stool. After an effort or two, he raised himself up in the bed, and had a copious liquid stool. He complained much of being very ill, but slept, with signs of great uneasiness, from ten o'clock till morning. He had then a considerable degree of fever, and complained of much pain in the back. He was bled, and took some nitrous medicines, and was ordered to be kept cool and quiet. In the afternoon he was carried home in a sedan, which is the only thing he remembers of all that passed. Even on the 9th day of the month, the fever continued pretty considerable: and as his nose bled, and he spit a little blood, his pulse being full and strong, he was bled again. He recovered gradually however, to the unspeakable satisfaction of his wife, two children, his mother, and two brothers, who were anxious spectators of the means used for his recovery. What makes this the more pleasing is, that the man is very honest, industrious, and an extraordinary good husband. The reward was paid.

C A S E XCVII. No. 4.

Extract of a Letter, &c.

A Boy, about 13 years old, bathing in the *River Mersey*, at *Liverpool*, got out of his depth. Four minutes, at least, are thought to have elapsed from the time of his sinking to his being taken out, cold, breathless, and apparently dead. He was taken

immediately to the Receiving-house, and by means of warmth, friction, and the application to the nostrils and temples, soon recovered. It was near *half an hour*, from his being taken out, before any pulsation was perceptible. Indeed, in this case, *that* seemed to be the last symptom of returning life, and it remained very imperfect and tremulous after very evident signs of recovery had appeared.

This lad was under the care of Mr. *Park*.

C A S E XCVIII. No. 5.

Extract of a Letter, &c.

October 4, 1776, at noon, *James Jones*, a poor boy, twelve years old, getting out of a boat at the *Dock-slip, Liverpool*, missed his step, fell into the water, and sunk immediately. Assistance was speedily procured; they dragged for him, and caught hold of his clothes once, but these giving way, it was nearly *seven minutes* (by the watch of a by-stander) before he was got out. The lad had been, with two others, amongst the shipping, pilfering lead, and had in his pockets and bosom above 20lb. weight, by which he was prevented saving himself by swimming; so near was the crime to effecting its punishment. When taken out, no breathing could be perceived; he was motionless, cold, and livid. As the accident happened near the Receiving-house, he was soon carried thither; as it seems, with the mouth downwards. The motion alone of carrying is undoubtedly useful in these cases, as, by the time he was laid upon the bed, he breathed, and soon after threw up some water. In about *twenty minutes* he shrieked several times;

times, and moaned much. Frictions, warmth, and volatile stimulants had been applied, and a small quantity of blood was taken away by Mr. *Lyon*. It was more than *half an hour* before I was apprized and could get down to him. The body, and particularly the legs and feet, were then very cold; he shivered and moaned frequently, complaining of cold, and desiring to be carried to the Glass-house. He swallowed, with difficulty, a little warm wine and water, and, as soon as a hot bath could be made ready, he was put into it, and well rubbed whilst therein. From thence he was put into bed, between the blankets. At four o'clock I found him there, with a quick pulse, and considerable heat and thirst. That evening he was carried home, where due care being taken of him, he perfectly recovered.

It appears highly probable, that, had it not been for the prospect of reward, the same expedition would not have been used to find and bring up the body; and, when found, the appearance of death would have caused a neglect of the means absolutely requisite for his recovery.

The reward was paid to *Bernard Mc. Carn*, *Andrew Griffiths*, *David Pugh*, and another man.

C A S E XCIX. No. 6.

Extract of a Letter, &c.

A T midnight of the same day, *Oct. 4*, *Amelia Houghton*, a woman of the town, slipped from on board a ship into the *Salt-house Dock*. The noise she made in the water, gave the alarm to the *Custom-house* officers on board the *John and Sarah*, Captain *Blagden*. These again were heard by *Ed-*
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ward Tevenor, a seaman on board, who jumped out of bed, got into the boat, and, catching hold of her clothes, drew her into it. The sailors called the watch, and carried her to the Receiving-house, where first she spoke, and vomited up a quantity of water. Notice was sent to the surgeons, whose pupils attended without delay. Warmth, and frictions for a short time, were all the means used to bring her to herself. She remained there all the night, the watchmen sitting up with her, and in the morning she walked home. It is not known how long she was in the water, but they believe a long time. The reward was divided between the seamen and watchmen.

C A S E C. No. 7 and 8:

Copy of a Letter from *Dr. Townsend*.

“ S I R,

Cork, May 26, 1776.

“ It affords me infinite satisfaction to acquaint you, that since the establishment of a Society in this part of the world, my success has exceeded my most sanguine wishes. I had the pleasure the last year of communicating to you two successful cases; and now enjoy the happiness of presenting you with the particulars of a *third* person restored to life: indeed, I might add with great truth, the recovery of a *fourth*, as his companion when brought ashore had no appearance of life, and required the greatest Medical attention to restore him.

“ About

“ About the middle of last month, as two fishermen were in a vessel, a sudden gust of wind arose, so that many persons on shore saw the boat sink, and no one had courage to put off to their relief. But when a considerable time had elapsed, some men agreed to hazard their own lives in search of the unfortunate men : they soon found both the bodies, and brought them ashore to all appearance dead. Messengers were dispatched for me, and being at home, I went with the men to the house where the dead persons (as they termed them) were carried, and indeed every one said, that both of them was brought dead into the house ; but one of them shewed (by the rubbing, shaking and tossing of the vessel) small signs of returning life ; so that I paid all my attention to the other man, and found him in the following situation :

The body was cold, stiff and livid about the face, &c. There was not the smallest pulsation, respiration, or any other vital motion to be perceived. I ordered the wet clothes to be taken off, the body to be wiped dry, a large fire to be made, and very diligently made use of every method which I had found successful in those persons that I fortunately restored to life the last year : so that by constant friction, fumigating, &c. &c. in about *three quarters of an hour* he fetched two or three deep sighs, groaned terribly, and soon after his body became universally convulsed. In about *half an hour* the convulsions left him, his pulse gradually returned with very difficult respiration, and other symptoms of returning life. In about *two hours* the pulse became strong and full, his breathing tolerably easy, he had a good night, and the next morning he was perfectly recovered,
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and went about his business, though he complained of weakness and soreness for several days.

“ The other young man, as I observed before, by the tossing of the vessel, shaking and rubbing him, as soon as brought into the house, groaned sadly; and soon afterwards, by the great debility produced in consequence of the evacuation, sunk again, so that I thought him near expiring. But by exhibiting the strongest cordials, putting him to bed between warm blankets, and taking the greatest care of him, he gradually got better, fell asleep, and when he waked, was entirely out of danger, and gradually recovered.

“ I am Sir,

“ Your obliged,

“ And most obedient servant,

“ R. TOWNSEND.”

“ P. S. The above successful cases are additional proofs of the real usefulness of your institution to mankind; and there cannot be a doubt, but that very soon a universal attention will be paid to all cases of sudden death; and then no unfortunate objects will be lost for want of Medical skill, and public assistance, as from the number of lives already restored, a general philanthropy must long prevail; which, in a series of time, must be productive of snatching thousands from apparent death.”

The two following Cases were transmitted to us from Dr. *Dowson*, by the hands of Mr. *Hawes*.

C A S E C I. No. 9.

S I R,

Coldstream, July 10, 1776.

I take this earliest opportunity of sending the following Case, which, as it is founded entirely on facts, which can be well attested by many, will, I hope, give you as much satisfaction in reading, as it gave me pleasure by the success with which it was attended.

On the evening of the 19th of *June*, two men, much in liquor, laid a trifling wager that one of them could not swim a cross the *Tweed* and back again. They were then at the Toll-gate, on the north-side of the Bridge, below *Coldstream*. The person challenged, went to the south-side of the Bridge, stripped, threw himself into the river, and swam easily to the north-side, but on his return, he failed, and, as appeared afterwards, called for help; though his brother, who was his antagonist, made every body about him believe that he was diverting himself. The noise increasing, drew a number of people, who were, fortunately for him, nigh at hand the water side. At that period I happened to come up, and declared him a drowning man. We saw him go down twice, and rise again; the third time he went to the bottom. A boat was luckily at hand, in which three able men went off to save him. When they got to the place where he lay, which was a shallow piece of water,

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one of them attempted to catch hold of him by the hair of his head, but it being very short, he lost his hold, and the boat went over him. By this, and the current carrying them down, some time was lost. They made it up as soon as possible, and on the second attempt he was caught, and the man who had hold of him endeavoured to bring him into the boat. I called to him to lose no time, on which he secured him by the neck and jaws; and he was brought to the shore suspended on the side of the boat, half in and half out of the water. His face was quite black, and his eyes fixed. Had I not been there, he would have been turned heels upward, which was proposed, and probably rolled on the adjacent ground. I ordered him to be laid flat on his back, with his head a little raised; at this time there was no appearance of life, no motion in the thorax, nor a pulse to be felt any where. A hand barrow, ordered sometime before, was by this time brought, on which he was laid with his head still raised, and on which we intended to carry him to a house on the south-side of the Bridge; but the people would not receive him: this lost some precious time, and we were necessitated to carry him to the nearest house, which was the Toll-house on the north-end of the Bridge; where, with threats and promises, alternately, we with difficulty got admission. He was laid on a bed with a blanket below him, and some warm ones above him. Two assistants were immediately employed in rubbing his breast, sides and belly with warm flannels, and in rubbing his face and neck, and applying rum to his nostrils and upper lip. In about five minutes his breast began to move, and in as many more, the eyelids had power to cover
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the eyes. With this encouraging prospect we continued the work briskly ; and in about fifteen minutes he began to fetch deep sighs: by going on in the same plan, and at this period giving a tea spoonful of rum and water now and then by the mouth, in half an hour he was able to speak, though not very intelligibly. He grew better gradually, and was, in about three hours, able to be supported to *Cornhill*, which is a mile and a half from the river.

He was at least seven minutes under water, and from the time of sinking till he was laid in bed, at least 25 minutes had elapsed, probably half an hour.

N. B. The north-end of the bridge is in *Scotland*, and the south-end is in the county of *Durham*.

His name is *Thomas Ferguson*, a fellow of an infamous character, has been a Jack-of-all-trades ; and is now one of those, called in our county, Gypsies. This, I would hope, was a strong reason why we were refused admittance at both ends of the bridge. To the people on the south-side, another reason may be added, viz. the necessity (had he not recovered) of sending for a Coroner from *Durham*, which is a considerable distance, and would have been attended with considerable expence. To those on the north-side, threats and promises were alike useless, till I happened to say that there was a possibility of a recovery, and if that was lost, his blood would certainly be on them.

As this is the first case of the kind I ever was timeously employed in, the confusion naturally arising from such an accident, prevented time being exactly measured ; but I am positive I have rather kept within bounds than otherwise, and have the concurrent sentiments of several sensible people,

who were present through most or the whole of the transaction. Indeed, I have rarely heard of such a chain of providential circumstances towards the saving of a person's life : A farmer's servants, at least fourteen in number, employed in shearing sheep that afternoon in a place, where usually there are only transient passengers ;--a boat just at hand, which is generally laid up half a mile distant ;--and my coming up at the critical minute to give my assistance.

Thus I have given you a detail of facts, and wish it may contribute, even in the smallest degree, to assist that humane, that benevolent system, which you and your brethren, are so laudably, for the good of society, engaged in.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

JAMES DAWSON.

P. S. I met him that evening as he was supported by his brother and wife. He knew me, took off his hat, offered me his hand which I received, and wished God to bless me for what I had done. Two days after, his wife came over to thank me ; she said that the people of *Cornhill* would not receive them, and that they were obliged to walk two miles farther that night to get a bed. She left him that day complaining of his breast, which was probably owing to the boat pressing on him when the man lost his hold.

C A S E CII. No. 10.

S I R,

Jane, the wife of *John Nutman*, a cottager under *Mr. Wood*, a gentleman farmer, at *Preston*, in *Northumberland*, on the 28th of *August*, about 12 o'clock, went from her house to unload a cart of hay, which the evening before had been left just by the yard where it was to be built in a rick, with the bottom of the cart touching the ground, and consequently the shafts erect, and so much room between the cart and the dyke of the yard, left, as to allow, with difficulty, a person to pass through. She pulled the hay from time to time, till at last the under part was too light, and suddenly the shafts went down with such violence, as unfortunately for her, the cross bar of the under part of the cart struck her right jaw, deprived her of all sensation, and she hung suspended by it, partly supported by the dyke behind. In this condition she was, by all the accounts I can learn, for at least half an hour; when her husband, providentially, (not according to custom) left his fellow reapers, and during the recess of their dinner, went to see his family, the place where they were reaping being not far from his house. He enquired for his wife, and was told she was carrying the hay out of the cart. He found her suspended as above, and could not disengage her till he pushed the wheels forward, when she fell, seemingly a lifeless corpse. He immediately carried her into the house, and laid her in bed; *Mr. Wood* being sent for, attempted to blood her, applied Spirit of Hartshorn to her nostrils and temples, and ordered bottles of warm water to be applied to the lower extremities,

extremities, they, as well as the other parts of her body being quite cold, and she to all appearance dead. It was proposed to send for me; they all believed it to no purpose, but for satisfaction I was sent for; and at half after three o'clock (*Preston* being between four and five miles distant from *Coldstream*) I found her in bed, supported by her husband, her face as pale as death, her hands and arms cold. I examined her breast and sides, but could see no mark of contusion, except on the under part of the right jaw, where she had received the stroke, and even that was then of a palish colour. On speaking to her she gave no sign of life; I immediately ordered her husband out of bed, her to be undressed and laid in blankets, procured two able women to rub her well and constantly with warm flannels from the neck down to the belly: the hartshorn drops were frequently applied to the nostrils with a feather. In about an hour she became gradually warm, she coughed; and I poured through her teeth two or three tea spoonfuls of wine and water, which she, with much difficulty, glutted. With this encouragement the rubbing was vigorously continued, and they gained ground so much, that in an hour more she turned herself to one side, but appeared quite in a dozing state, and with reluctance would attempt to swallow the wine and water. They still persevered in rubbing, and about eleven o'clock she began to mutter though not to be understood: at this period she swallowed some panado with wine in it; continued dozing till next morning about three o'clock, when she waked and spoke sensibly. Next forenoon I saw her sitting at her fireside suckling the child. On enquiry, she could recollect nothing

nothing of what had happened, only the pulling the hay from the cart. The contusion on her jaw was very black. She complained much of her neck and right shoulder, the first of which was very red, but on the other nothing to be observed. I desired her to go to bed, drink some warm gruel, and encourage perspiration. I ordered some of the Liniment. Volat. for the bruised parts, and a dose of cooling physick to be taken next morning. Since that period she has gone about her family affairs, and complains only of her neck and shoulder.

I never knew such an instance of humanity as in the women, who continued rubbing so long as from half after three to eleven at night, and would not allow any neighbour to assist or relieve them: one of them told me, that she could sensibly perceive the ground she gained, not only by the gradual increase of warmth, but by her breasts growing more and more turgid with milk.

Hurry of business prevented my staying longer with her at first than two hours, but I took the report of what followed from the women, and found her next day as above.

I am, dear Sir,

Your much obliged humble servant,

JAMES DAWSON.

CASE

C A S E CIII. No. II.

Copy of a letter from Mr. *Meck*, dated *Falkirk*,
Oct. 21, 1776.

“ On the 24th of *Sept.* 1776, *John Dick*, a taylor, aged twenty-five years, of a middle size, an athletic constitution, near *Camelon*, about a mile west of *Falkirk*, fell from on board a lighter, into the *Canal*, which contained between six and seven feet water. No person was near him but a man who was drawing the lighter, who not observing him fall, continued at his labour; but the people on the neighbouring heights, employed at the harvest, saw the accident, and came running to his assistance; before they got him out, it is agreed by all present, that he had been at least *half an hour* under water.

“ I came to his assistance about a *quarter of an hour* after he was got out, when there was not the least signs of the smallest remains of life; on the contrary, he felt quite cold, and even in some degree rigid.

“ They had used him in the following manner before I came :

“ A countryman had attempted to bleed him, but little or none came; they had kept him lying on the bank of the *Canal*, with his head hanging downwards, to let the water run, as they said, although, so far as I could learn, there was little evacuated.

“ Being come, I ordered him to be treated as follows; to be immediately taken up, and carried in a horizontal posture, with his head a little elevated,

vated, to the nearest house, which is about three hundred yards distant, a person being dispatched to make a good fire; heat a warming-pan, &c. and keep out the multitude, which were by this time assembled in great numbers. We got ready access to the house, and every conveniency it could afford.

“ He was stripped of all his wet clothes, and wrapped in a warm woollen blanket, then laid in a bed, with hot bricks to the soles of his feet, his body was laboriously rubbed with the bottom of a warming-pan, keeping the blanket always betwixt the body and it, which was so hot, that if it had been kept in contact with the blanket, for any space of time, it would have been singed; volatile stimulants were held to his nose, and even a few drops of them put into his mouth, and rubbed on the temples, &c.

“ I frequently endeavoured to distend the lungs, by blowing, with great force, through a silver cannula, put into the mouth, compressing the nostrils and mouth, so as that the air might not escape.

“ I observed, so long as he was in the frigid lifeless state I found him in at first, my endeavours to distend the lungs had no effect; but no sooner was the body heated with the warming-pan, and the fibres rendered pliant by moderate warmth, than every attempt to distend the lungs was attended with amazing effects.

Now some pleasing signs of returning life appeared, such as a quivering of the under lip, small twitches of the muscles of the face, &c. by which being induced to persevere with alacrity in the same successful course, I soon felt a small, tremulous,

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intermitting pulse at the wrist ; in a few minutes thereafter, he uttered a kind of inarticulate noise or moan, upon which I caused a little warm water and brandy, the only and readiest thing we could get, to be brought to him, of which he swallowed, though with difficulty, about half a tea-cup-full ; he soon began to speak, but incoherently.

Now the powers of life seemed very well confirmed : between which period and the time he fell into the canal, was about 90 minutes, or an hour and a half.

A window was mostly kept open for the benefit of fresh air, so necessary for the preservation of life.

I left him with directions that he should be kept quiet in bed for some time. That evening he walked, with some difficulty, to *Falkirk*, the difficulty was caused by violent pains in his bowels, more especially during respiration ; but so soon as he got to bed he was relieved. For two or three days after, he was much in the situation of one greatly fatigued with labour, but that sensation gradually went off.

Care was taken to guard his arm from bleedings ; as I am clearly of opinion with your learned Society, that losing any considerable quantity at the moment of returning life, is prejudicial, perhaps by weakening too much the *Vis Vitæ*, and diminishing that stimulus so requisite to the preservation of animal life.

But so soon as the powers of life are confirmed, there are many cases where bleeding is indicated in order to prevent inflammation, &c.

You will observe, Sir, that this man's head was kept hanging downwards for about 15 minutes, a vulgar practice, frequently fatal, and diametrically
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opposite to every modern Medical direction : but I believe there are certain cases and circumstances where it does little or no harm, (more than the loss of the important moments which ought to be employed to better purpose) and I take this man's case to be one of those.

The danger of hanging the head downwards proceeds from a greater quantity of blood, in that position, being conveyed to the brain, and a more difficult return of it to the Vena Cava, by which the brain is compressed, and life extinguished ; but when there is, as in this case, an entire cessation of the circulation, the brain can suffer no compression further than the weight of the incumbent column of blood, in the Aorta Ascendens and its branches, &c. But, vice versa, where there are any remains of life and circulation, hanging down the head will soon prove fatal ; which brings to my remembrance an instance, where I accidentally came in due time, to save one from falling a sacrifice to such indiscretion. viz.

In the month of *June* last, a boy about eight years of age, bathing in the *River Carron*, near to the *Carron Works*, went beyond his depth ; but was taken out in four five or minutes after. I happened to be passing by at the time, when I saw the people running towards the water side, which caught my attention, and soon observed a person running towards me, calling and begging me to come that way, for there was a child drowned in the river.

I soon come to the place, when I found they had got him out, and were suspending him by the heels : immediately I caused them to reverse his posture ; and although he was quite motion-

less and to appearance dead, I had him exposed to the rays of the sun, it being a fine, warm, sunshiny-day, his body to be rubbed strongly with handkerchiefs, &c. and blow with force into his mouth, &c. He soon recovered. But I am convinced, had he been kept for any considerable time with his head hanging downwards, his life had been irrecoverably lost.

“ I am,

“ S I R,

“ Your most humble servant,

JOHN MEEK, *Surgeon.*

Falkirk, October 21.

P. S. I received your very polite letter, the answer to which will be delivered to you by Mr. *Walker* of this place, who will very obligingly execute any commands you have for me.

“ I am truly sensible of the honour you, with so much goodness, intend me, and the obliging manner in which you communicate the salutary minute of your Society. Will be very happy if any thing I can communicate shall be thought, in any degree, worthy the attention of your respectable Society.

“ Have sent you two cases pretty circumstantially wrote, especially the first. Every thing was done that occurred and could be got at the time. The facts may all be depended upon; the reasoning, by fame, may be thought liable to objections. But if approved of by your Learned Society, I shall, perhaps, on some future occasion risque a conjecture founded, I think, on the laws of the animal œconomy. Why, if a number of people were

were to fall into a river, and remain equal time under water, and the same judicious means were made use of for their recovery, a number shall, and others will not recover?

“ If any more cases occur, they shall be sent. Allow me, Sir, to conclude, by wishing you and your Humane Society much success in extending the blessings of life to mankind.

PART

P A R T II.

PROCEEDINGS of the SOCIETY; together with a brief Account of the Establishments of similar Institutions in different Parts of the Kingdom.

IT may not at all times be expedient for Societies of a publick nature to invite the world at large to take a view of their internal transactions: For, although they should be well regulated upon the whole, yet many resolutions, extremely pertinent in themselves, might frequently expose them to the injurious censures of captious and superficial observers. But such are the Plan and Designs of our Institution, that periodical publications are absolutely necessary. And so great is the harmony which at present reigns among us; so conscious are we that every measure proposed and adopted has the cause of humanity alone for its grand object: and so free are we from the possibility of being actuated by sinister motives, or aiming at any personal interests distinct from the general good, that we may safely venture to submit all those proceedings in which the publick may be in any degree interested, to the *candour* of the publick. We will therefore give a summary view of the most important steps which have been taken from our first establishment; and
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also of the reasons which induced us to give those steps the preference. We think that several important ends may be answered by this unreserved publication of our proceedings——

There is every reason to expect that our great success will induce numerous parts of the kingdom to establish institutions for a similar purpose; and a faithful narrative of our transactions may serve either as a model for imitation, or suggest hints for yet further improvements:—since the publick has been so beneficent in support of our design, far exceeding our most sanguine expectations, it is but reasonable that we give a general account of the expenditure of their money:—and as the Society is peculiarly indebted to some individuals for the essential services they have rendered it, justice demands that we make the most open and grateful acknowledgments for their services.

Every moderate and reasonable mind will, upon reading our Reports, rejoice to find that we have done so much good; but lest malevolence should insinuate that we might have done more, it is necessary to remark that our first object and chief difficulty was remove that general and destructive incredulity which prevailed. Our attempts were treated not only by the vulgar, but by some of the learned, even by men of eminence as physicians and philosophers, as idle and visionary, and placed nearly upon a level with *professing to raise the dead*. The well-authenticated narratives from abroad, were considered as fabulous, or at least greatly exaggerated. Such prejudices were first to be removed; and they could only be removed by incontestible facts of our own. Happily the early subscriptions of a few individuals enabled

enabled us to produce them before the little fund was exhausted. These facts increased the number of our friends and patrons ; and have finally enabled us to lay before the publick such a number and variety of instances, free from the possibility of contradiction, as seem to have forced conviction upon the minds of the most obstinate sceptics. This grand point being now gained, we shall have opportunities and leisure to contemplate and put into execution plans of more extensive utility.

Another difficulty was to provide a convenient receptacle for the body, and procure every requisite aid in these critical and alarming cases. In the infancy of our establishment, and while prejudices were strong, we thought it would be to little purpose to make a general application to the different hospitals and workhouses, for permission to convey the bodies thither. Numbers of these were also situated at so remote a distance from the place of the accident, that the conveyance of the objects to them would have been attended with the most fatal consequences, even with the destruction of the small remains of life : We therefore preferred applying to publick houses contiguous to the water-side, and undertook to silence, by the promise of a considerable reward, the prejudices which naturally arise against the admission of a corpse into the house, and the fears suggested by an ill-grounded apprehension, that the expences of the burial must legally rest with those who thus admit it ; and also the objections arising from the great trouble and inconveniences to which the family must be inevitably exposed ; The success has demonstrated the propriety of this measure. The cheerfulness

fulness and alacrity with which Publicans receive the objects, and administer every assistance in their power, cannot be too much commended. This temper is become so general, that the man who rejects an application of such a nature, is now deemed by the whole neighbourhood as a monster of inhumanity. A stigma which begins to operate very powerfully upon some who would not be actuated by other or better motives !

It was the general wish, at our first institution, to extend our rewards to every case of sudden death ; but several causes conspired to render this impracticable. The finances of the Society were much too small to enable us to bring ourselves under such general engagements. It would have been impossible to have provided receptacles in every part of the town, in any respect proportionate to the number, and variety of accidents which present themselves ; for until we had given some demonstration of the efficacy of the means recommended, any application to hospitals and work-houses would have been premature, and might have been deemed impertinent. Another, and a yet more weighty obstacle was that if similar rewards were offered in other cases, the Society would be exposed to perpetual impositions, which would not only exhaust our funds, but bring its design into discredit and contempt. The act of drowning is such, that it does not well admit of collusion. It is of so public a nature, that persons who cannot be suspected of countenancing imposture, are frequently witnesses to it : but how easily might a set of unprincipled wretches (and with such this metropolis abounds) agree to counterfit syncopies, apoplectic fits, or even death by sus-
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pension

pension by the rope, and claim, by knavery and deceit, the rewards due to *humanity* alone.

Such are the considerations which have hitherto determined us to engage to bestow our premiums to cases of drowning only: yet, wherever it hath incontestibly appeared that vigilant attempts have been made to restore life, in any other cases of a suspension of the vital functions, the assistant parties have, upon a proper application, received some suitable acknowledgment for their humane endeavours. We have also invariably held forth to the Publick, that a similar mode of procedure is applicable to sudden apparent deaths from other causes.

We have faithfully related such instances as have been communicated to us from creditable persons. We have demonstrated the efficacy of the means in a case of suspension by the cord—of a child that was rendered senseless, and apparently lifeless, by falling out of a window—of a boy suffocated, by being buried in a quantity of grain—of a man who had lain a whole night in the fields in a fit—of a woman suspended by the bar of a cart—and of children *still born*. We will subjoin an instance of recovery from suffocation, by a stove, translated from the Dutch Memoirs; and some others of restoration to life after the objects had been struck with apparent death by noxious vapours.

These latter Cases will be the more important, as they demonstrated the surprising efficacy of cold water, which seems peculiarly applicable in suffocations by warm stagnated air, or putrid vapour, and which may be considered as a valuable addition

tion to the other excellent methods commonly employed.

We hope that the above measures will prove sufficient to turn the public attention to every instance of apparent death ; so that no one may be neglected, or hastily interred from a rash presumption that they are beyond the reach of human aid. And as the most like means of forwarding these humane designs, we most earnestly recommend it to all Hospitals, and Directors of Work-houses, readily to admit persons who have attempted to be their own executioners, that have fallen into sudden and dangerous syncopies, apoplectic fits, &c. and to administer every requisite article. The expences would be but trifling, and the success might be great, which, to a benevolent heart, is a sufficient reward. We will venture to assert, that every Medical Gentleman who has favoured us with his name, will cheerfully attend such cases, and give every assistance in his power. Thus might every instance of a sudden suspension of life, meet with due attention and succour, without any material expence being incurred, or the benevolent designs of the Society becoming a prey to the artifice of individuals.

It is with pleasure we inform the Publick, that, upon the request of Mr. *Henley* (author of the paper, recommending the Electrical shock) the Overseers of the parish of *St. Saviours*; of *St. Olaves, Tooley-Street*; and *St. John's, Bermondsey-Street*; have promised to receive such subjects into their Workhouses, and administer every requisite aid. An example this well deserving of universal imitation !

It has been already mentioned that we were the last year enabled, by publick beneficence, to extend our rewards to within about thirty miles distance from this metropolis. It is our earnest desire to extend them yet farther, were this to be done with prudence and advantage; but it appears that the business of the Society could not be conducted in a proper manner, were it rendered yet more extensive. However, we shall chearfully give every assistance and information in our power to those who are desirous of establishing Institutions for the like purpose. And where the distance is not too great, and no other impediment arises, we shall chearfully enter into yet closer connections, similar to those which have taken place between our Society, and the one established at Colchester. Several humane and public-spirited Gentlemen of that town, and its environs, chiefly of the faculty, having formed themselves into an association, in order to afford assistance in the accidents which may happen in their neighbourhood, expressed an earnest desire that we would extend our premiums to that place; promising, at the same time, that they would exert themselves to raise such subscriptions from the charitable and well-disposed among them, as might reimburse the Society. This proposal met with the unanimous concurrence of the Members at their General Meeting, held May 8, 1776. In consequence of which agreement, we have paid the rewards in *three* Casts; one of which has proved singularly successful. On the other hand, that Society has amply fulfilled its engagements.

Indeed it will frequently happen in smaller towns, that although the number of opulent and humane persons may be very considerable, yet the
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impediments to their establishing a similar Society shall be great, and perhaps insurmountable. It is well known, and much to be lamented, that a spirit of party both in religious and political matter, operates much more powerfully in the country, than in the metropolis; and that this, together with all the little jealousies, personal and family animosities, and various other causes which have no influence *here*, will often render the best-intentioned, and best concerted schemes, abortive. The difficulties of establishing any new Institution are generally very great: the pains and trouble are certain, while the success is precarious. We may also suppose that numbers will cheerfully contribute to the support of a Society already formed, who may either want activity, influence, or opportunities of establishing one for similar purposes. Induced, by these considerations, the Society have formed a design to pay their rewards in like manner, whenever it may be particularly requested, (if the distance is not too great) provided that gentlemen of character and activity will engage to exert themselves to enable us, in any degree, to defray the expences which may occur. The equity and propriety of such a proposal will appear self-evident to every one.

Although we must be necessarily limited with regard to connections of this kind, yet we could wish to be unlimited in diffusing a knowledge of the methods of treatment which we, in conjunction with our neighbours upon the continent, find so amazingly efficacious. For this purpose, we have caused to be printed several thousand bills, simply containing the methods of treatment. These we have distributed as opportunity has offered

ferred, among captains of ships, the inhabitants of sea ports, or of towns contiguous to large rivers. By these means, the methods of saving a fellow creature in the deepest distress, are happily become familiar to many parts of Great Britain: and we flatter ourselves, that numbers valuable of lives will be occasionally saved in places where no Society is formally instituted. We would farther earnestly recommend it to persons of influence, particularly those in a public capacity, whether clergymen of parishes, justices of the peace, or gentlemen of the faculty, to post up these directions in the most conspicuous and frequented places, such as town-halls, market places, upon the doors of churches, &c. that every man may become instructed in the means of saving a brother from destruction.

We here beg leave to repeat an observation respecting one article in the mode of treatment, as it is of considerable moment, which is, *not to make an indiscriminate use of the lancet.* We have, in our Reports of the year 1775, page 52, mentioned two instances of the fatal consequences that attended premature and copious bleeding. Upon which, a Committee of Medical Gentlemen was appointed, who, though they presume not to dictate to any one, particularly upon a subject which can only be determined by *experience*, yet, after the most mature and deliberate reasoning upon the question, gave it as their joint opinion that a letter should be sent to each medical assistant, informing him that some cases had been communicated to the Society, wherein it appeared that *early* and *profuse* bleeding was of fatal consequence; requesting him to be
extreamly

extremely cautious respecting bleeding, and particularly attentive to its effects, whenever it may be deemed necessary; and that he would communicate to the Society the result of his experiment upon this subject.

A caution of this kind is the more necessary, as to open a vessel is almost universally the first operation performed in attempting the recovery of persons seized with apparent death. If the blood should not flow, which is often the case, it is an useless operation; but should it flow in any quantity, there is the utmost danger of its oversetting the enfeebled powers of nature, and exhausting the small remains of life. The necessity of blood-letting, to alleviate consequent symptoms, will often be self-apparent; but it would doubtless be adviseable never to employ it from the mere apprehension of its being a mode of treatment, essentially requisite, or without some indication that may suggest the advantage and necessity of it.

The application of air, of the fumes of tobacco, and other stimulating substances to the intestines, has always been considered as a most powerful and efficacious means of exciting the torpid powers of nature. It is coeval with the first attempts to recover persons in this critical situation; and hath, in a variety of instances, manifested its great, if not superior advantages. Bellows, and fumigators of various constructions, have accordingly been formed for these purposes. In the Reports of the year 1775, page 78, we have also given a minute description of a fumigator upon an improved plan.

plan. Mention is also made of a magazine so constructed, as to contain in as small a compass as possible, every thing requisite to commence the recovery, as well as the fumigator mentioned above, viz. a tin cannister for salt, a glass bottle for brandy, another of a lesser size for volatile spirits, a third, yet smaller, for an emetic powder, another for a sternutatory. It is furnished also with two or three rough cloths, with a box, containing tinder, flint, and steel, &c. It is true the quantity of brandy and salt will be but small, but these articles are the more easily supplied elsewhere, and were there to be a larger provision of them, the magazine would be very considerably increased, both in volume and weight, which would be a still greater disadvantage. The grand utility proposed by this magazine, is to furnish the attendants at the same instant with every thing requisite to begin the salutary operation. This is the more desirable, as the first moments are the most important; when unfortunately, the general consternation and confusion are so great, that it is extremely difficult to collect together the necessary materials.

The Society, convinced of the great benefits that may accrue from such an apparatus, have ordered several of them to be made, and deposited with Medical Assistants in certain specified districts. They are to be considered for the use of the Society, and the other Medical Assistants in the neighbourhood are consequently to be furnished with a key, and to have free access to the same. Proper notice will be also given with whom the magazine is deposited. A considerable number of these are now in great forwardness, and they will
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be disposed of in such a manner as shall seem most subservient to the ends of our institution.

Those designed for the country are to be furnished with a wallet, or pouch, fixed externally to the box, and confined by a strap and buckle. This pouch is to contain a large flannel shirt, cap, and stockings, with an additional number of cloths. By which means the objects may be immediately stripped of their wet cloaths, and be wrapped up warm and dry, should the accident happen at a distance from any habitation; and the attempt of recovery may be made in a barn, or even in the open fields, while other attendants are looking out for a convenient receptacle, or seeking for more ample supplies. The whole will be rendered conveniently portable, by a leathern strap fixed to the handles, which may be slung across the shoulders of a Messenger.

Upon the first proposal of our plan, it was intimated, that, as soon as the state of the funds would admit, an honorary medal should be presented to those medical gentlemen, or others, who may have refused the ordinary premium, in every case where they shall have been instrumental in restoration to life. In conformity to this design, the Society have appointed that ingenious artist, Mr. Lewis Pingo, to engrave a pair of dies, according to the elegant design of Dr. Watkinson, described in the Reports published last year, (see page 86) which he has executed in a masterly manner; and it was the unanimous resolution of the Members assembled, that these medals shall be presented according to the following regulations :

I. That the medal shall be of *silver*.

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II. That

II. That the name of the person intitled to the honour, together with that of the person restored, and the date of the event, shall be engraved in English, on the reverse of the medal, within the civic wreath.

III. That this medal shall be presented to every gentleman, whether he be a medical assistant or other, who has superintended a *restoration to life*, if he has not accepted of any pecuniary reward.

IV. That in such case where two or more medical gentlemen may have attended, he that was *first* present shall be entitled to the honour, provided he continue to superintend the case until there be encouraging signs of a perfect restoration; the object having been apparently dead.

V. That if a Medical gentleman has been concerned in *three* cases, where his assistance may have been requisite, although there had been signs of returning life, previous to his attendance, he shall be entitled to *one* medal, having the names of the three persons inscribed, &c.

It was further resolved, in order to take away every suspicion or appearance of partiality, that no gentleman shall receive the medal, until the case intitling him to it has been published to the world in our Annual Reports.

Agreeable to the above regulations, the following gentlemen, who have been instrumental of restoration from our first establishment in May 1774, to the end of the year 1775, were unanimously declared by the Society as deserving of these honorary rewards. Mr. *Hodgson*, Surgeon and Apothecary, in *Wapping*, for the restoration of

Dedrick Woolbert, Case II, 1774. Mr. *Corney*, Surgeon, in the parish of *St. John's, Horsleydown*, for the restoration of *James Becket*, Case VI. 1774. Mr. *Smith*, Surgeon and Apothecary, *Limehouse*, for the restoration of *Nicholas Groome*, Case VII, 1774. *J. Powsey*, Gent. of *Poplar*, for the restoration of *James Pike*, Case XXII, 1775. Mr. *J. Church*, Surgeon and Apothecary, *Islington*, for the restoration of *Thomas Patterson*, Case XXV, 1775. Mr. *Church* is also entitled to second medal, according to the *fifth* Resolution, for having assisted and superintended the cures of — *Cambell*, Case XIX; *Mary Riley*, Case XXXVIII; and *Catherine Liveridge*, Case XLII.

The other Cases of Restoration, fell under the direction of persons who have received a pecuniary acknowledgment.

The above articles, we mean the Magazines and the dies for the medals, will doubtless put the Society to a considerable expence. But they are happily of such a nature, that these expences cannot recur. The importance, nay, absolute necessity of the first, will appear manifest to every one. With respect to the donation of medals, we are in doubt in which point of view it ought chiefly to be considered, whether as an act of justice, a debt of gratitude, or a maxim of sound policy. The Medical Assistants, to whose share it is to be presumed these honors will principally fall, have uniformly exerted themselves with the most laudable zeal and alacrity. In unsuccessful Cases, they frequently labour for two or three hours in the most disagreeable and fatiguing employments; and in the successful ones, they have frequently visited the patient and administered medicines for a considerable length of

time, without the least compensation. In fact had they not been so generous as to offer their assistance *gratis*, were the Society obligated to pay, as in general practice for their attendance and skill, they would already have been entitled to a much larger recompence than what the whole of the expenditure upon this article will have amounted to. And as these medals are only presented in cases of extraordinary success, such an honourable token of the Society's recognizance, for their skill and assiduity, cannot be deemed an unseasonable or an extravagant reward.

We embrace with pleasure this opportunity of observing, that the grand advantage of our Institution over that of other nations, seems to be derived from this voluntary Service of Gentlemen of the Faculty. As they are in a public capacity, the places of their abode are readily found, and the best assistance is *immediately* afforded. For although the modes of treatment are such that they may be applied by those unacquainted with the Medical art; yet it is natural to imagine that these Gentlemen will be more expert in the use of them than others; that they will be more cautious not to employ the pernicious and justly-exploded methods of suspending the body with the head downwards, rolling it upon the ground, or on a barrel, &c. A man of skill in his profession will also have opportunities of making such observations and improvements as may be productive of still greater success. The early presence of a gentleman of character is moreover a security against imposition. The reward given to the first messenger that applies to a Medical Gentleman, effectually prevents any neglect in that article; and when he

is present, he is in a situation to make such enquiry, and collect such intelligence from the numbers around him, as leave no room for deceit and collusion; so that of the numerous cases which have already fallen under our inspection, we have not had the least reason to suspect any intended fraud.

It may reasonably be supposed, that in process of time, the methods of treatment will be so universally known, and familiarly administered by the publick in general, as to render the presence of a Medical gentleman of less moment; and we hope that this honorary reward from a public body, offered to all who shall refuse a pecuniary one, will excite such a spirit of laudable emulation, as shall greatly forward this period. And in our opinion, a man of true ambition will value such a trophy of success, as the highest honor that can be conferred, since it is a compliment to his *humanity*, and his skill in the *preservation of life*!

It is proper to mention, in connection with the present subject, a peculiar act of liberality, by which the Society has been pleased to distinguish some of its members. We mean, their presenting their President, Mr. Alderman Bull, their Treasurer James Horsfall, Esq; Dr. Thomas Cogan, and Mr. William Hawes, the first proposers of the adopted plan, with a medal of gold. This honor was conferred at a General Court held the 11th of December, by the hands of the Rev. and learned Mr. Joseph Towers. We have subjoined in a note the particulars of this business, as they have been inserted in the public papers*; where the reader is made acquainted

*]A General Court of the Directors of the HUMANE SOCIETY, instituted for the Recovery of Persons apparently Drowned, was held
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acquainted with the motives which induced the Society to confer upon them so distinguished a mark of

at the London Coffee-house, Ludgate-hill, on Wednesday the 11th of Dec. 1776, in order to transact the necessary business of the Society; to hear the several Cases of Recovery that have occurred since their last meeting; and to present in a public manner, the honorary Medals which had been voted in a preceding General Court to several Gentlemen, for their eminent services in the establishment of this Society, in the management of its affairs, and the promotion of its interests. The President Mr. Ald. BULL, being absent on account of the ill state of his health, the Rev. Mr. JOSEPH TOWERS, one of the earliest and most active members of this Society, and a Gentleman whose eloquence is well known, was appointed Chairman for the evening.

After the minutes of the preceding Committee had been read and confirmed, the particulars were also read of THIRTY-FOUR Persons, who have been of late happily recovered by the use of the means directed by the Society, and under its sanction, and for which premiums have been given. The Chairman then proceeded, agreeable to the desire of the Society, to present the Medals which had been voted.

The first Medal was inscribed to the President Mr. Alderman BULL; but as the Society were informed, that his ill state of health had obliged him to retire into the country, they voted that a Committee should be appointed to wait on him with it, on his return to town. The Chairman observed, that it was the desire of the Society to shew every mark of respect to their worthy President; to which he was entitled, by his zeal to promote this humane Institution. He subscribed towards it in the most liberal manner, and by accepting of the office of its President, when he was in the high state of Chief Magistrate of London, as well as by his uniform attention to its interest, he had rendered it essential service.

The Chairman addressed separately the several Gentlemen to whom Medals had been voted, who were all present excepting Mr. BULL. But he previously made some remarks relative to the nature, design, and success of the Society, and to the reasons which had induced them to cause Medals to be struck. He observed, that as the Medical Assistants took no fee or reward for their attendance and services to those persons who were in such unhappy situations as came within the plan of the Institution, it had from the first been publicly declared to be the design of the Society, when their finances would admit of it, to give Silver Medals to those Gentlemen who had been instrumental in recovering such persons as were taken out of the water without any apparent signs of life. By the generosity of the Public, the Society were now enabled to give such medals; and they had previously resolved, that from the die which had been prepared by

of their approbation. This Present, valuable in itself, was rendered yet more so by the generous and polite

by that very able artist, MR. LEWIS PINGO, four medals should be struck in gold, for the President, the Treasurer, and the two institutors of the Society, DR. THOMAS COGAN, and MR. WILLIAM HAWES.

Mr. TOWERS also observed, that the custom of striking medals, to perpetuate the memory of events of importance, was of very ancient origin; and that if medals had been frequently struck, to preserve the memory of the oppressors and plunderers of mankind, of those who under the denomination of Heroes and Conquerors, have laid waste provinces, and depopulated kingdoms, it must surely be more rational, that medals should be struck in honour of the benefactors of mankind, and an institution for the preservation of the human species.

The second gold Medal was voted to JAMES HORSFALL, Esq. F. R. S. Treasurer of the Society: and in his address to this Gentleman, the Chairman observed, that the diligence and fidelity with which he had discharged the office of Treasurer, without any salary or reward, the time and application he had employed in paying the Premiums of the Society, and examining into the many cases that had been brought before him, and his constant attention to the interests of so humane an Institution, justly entitle him to the honorary medal which was then presented him.

To Dr. COGAN, Mr. TOWERS observed, that he was one of the first who had excited the attention of the inhabitants of this kingdom, to the practicability of recovering persons who were apparently dead by drowning, by his translation of the Amsterdam Memoirs upon this subject. He was also entitled to very honourable remembrance for having, with Mr. HAWES, exerted his endeavours towards the establishment of so excellent an Institution in this country, and had likewise a just claim to the thanks of the Society, for his care, attention, diligence, and judgment, which he had displayed in preparing and digesting the Reports of the Society.

To Mr. HAWES, the Chairman remarked, that to the well known humanity of his disposition, and to that activity of benevolence for which he was so remarkable, this Society in a great degree owed its origin.

The reasonableness and utility of an Institution of this kind had been very clearly seen by Mr. HAWES, and therefore he had laboured to promote it with a diligence and an ardour that would ever do him honour. Indeed before the establishment of this Society, he had publicly advertised rewards for notice to be brought him of any person in such situations, within a reasonable distance from his own habitation, as those who are now the objects of this institution; which was the strongest demonstration of his solicitude to promote so benevolent a design; and that afterwards, by joining with his
worthy

polite manner in which it was bestowed, being equally unsolicited and unexpected by the parties! The editor of these papers is particularly authorized by the gentlemen thus highly distinguished to declare, that they now deem themselves bound by a tie of gratitude, as well as by the general principles of humanity, to redouble their diligence, if possible, in promoting the interesting designs of the institution.

The ingenious Dr. Watkinson, an active member of the Society, was at the same time presented with a specimen of his own elegant device in silver.

The considerable donations we have received either from individuals or societies, will appear from the subjoined list. We must also repeat our acknowledgments to the Reverend Clergy, who have pleaded the cause of humanity with so much zeal and success. We have already paid the debt of gratitude, which was due to the gentlemen who preached for us preceding the year 1776. We mean the Rev. Mr. SOWDEN, the Rev. Sir GEORGE BOOTH, Bart. the Rev. Mr. MEAD, the Rev. Mr. SELLON, the Rev. Mr. WALKER, and the Rev. Mr. HARRISON, who preached our first Anniversary Sermon April 24, 1775.

worthy colleague, DR. COGAN, in adopting the necessary measures for establishing the present institution, he has performed a real service to his country.

With respect to DR. WATKINSON, the Chairman observed, that it was this gentleman to whom the Society were indebted for the ingenious device of the medal, which had been struck for the use of the Society, and which had been generally and justly admired by persons of taste, for its propriety and elegant simplicity. The Society, therefore, thought proper to present the Doctor with a Silver Medal, as an acknowledgment for this service, as well as for the zeal he had always shewn to promote the interests of this humane institution.

During

During the course of the year 1776, the assistances we have received, and for which it is incumbent upon us thus publickly to acknowledge our obligations, are as follow :

Feb. 4, The Rev. Mr. Harries preached for the Benefit of our Institution, at his Lecture in the Old Jewry.

£. s. d.
The collection amounted to 27 10 2

Feb. 25, The Rev. Mr. Fly, at St. Paul's Covent-Garden, —

11 7 0

March 10, (The Anniversary Sermon) the Rev. Dr. Dodd, at St. Andrew's, Holborn, —

44 15 3

June 2, The same discourse was preached by the Rev. Dr. Dodd, at St. Margaret's, Westminster,

34 3 4

July 7, The Rev. Mr. Harrison, at St. Luke's, Chelsea,

25 3 7

Aug. 18, The Rev. Sir George Booth, Bart. at All Saints, Fulham,

22 7 4

Sept. 15, The Rev. Mr. Sellon, St. Alphage's, Greenwich, —

54 0 0

Oct. 13, The Rev. Mr. Banks, Putney, —

39 8 6

To these we must add a donation from the inhabitants of St. Olave's, Crutched Friars, at the instance of the Rev. Mr. Foster, being a collection made at that church December 13, 1776, the day appointed by Government for a General Fast —

21 17 6

The grand reward to these gentlemen, for their liberal and generous exertions, must be derived from the pleasure of doing good ; it is however
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incumbent upon us to express a sense of our obligations to the utmost of our power. Influenced by this sentiment, a vote was unanimously passed at a General Court, declaring that every gentleman who preaches for the benefit of our Society, shall be considered as a **PERPETUAL DIRECTOR** : it being equitable that they should have a vote in the conduct of measures, which they have contributed to support.

A concise Account of similar INSTITUTIONS, &c.

UPON the first Institution of our Society, we could not forbear expressing our hopes, that different parts of the kingdom would imitate our example ; that towns and cities, too remote to be intimately connected with us, or too opulent to render such a connection necessary, would be animated by our attempts, and still more by our success, to form similar establishments. It is with the sincerest pleasure we learn that such expectations were well grounded : that the commiseration, which all must feel for objects in such a distressful and perilous state, no longer rests in exclamations of sympathy and sorrow, but begins to take a very active part, and endeavours to avert the evils it is so ready to bewail.

Soon after our Institution in London, the late Lord Cathcart, whose benevolence and public spirit are well known, undertook to introduce one for the same purposes in Scotland. In order to give a greater weight and sanction to his design, he submitted the methods of treatment to the inspection of the celebrated Dr. Cullen. And we are happy to find that this gentleman, in a letter addressed to his Lordship, which was afterwards made publick, has not only approved of our modes of proceeding in general, but has been particularly explicit and circumstantial in explaining their great propriety. In consequence of this sanction, Lord Cathcart drew up a plan which he recommended to the Board of Police, August 11, 1776, the substance of which is as follows :

“ Let the Board of Police compose a proper advertisement, founded on the principles of those

“ of other countries, containing the necessary ad-
 “ vice to the Publick, and informing them of the
 “ reward offered by way of encouragement to
 “ those who shall follow it ; and of the names of
 “ the persons to be immediately applied to, in
 “ cases of accidents, in different districts ; and or-
 “ der a sufficient number of copies of this paper,
 “ and of the advertisement, to be printed ; and let
 “ copies of the minutes of the Board on this sub-
 “ ject be sent to the sheriffs of counties, to the
 “ magistrates of Royal burghs, and to the mode-
 “ rators of Synods and Presbyteries, all over Scot-
 “ land, with a recommendation from the Board to
 “ request the said sheriffs, magistrates, and mode-
 “ rators, whose respective districts may adopt the
 “ measure, to signify it to the Board, and to com-
 “ municate such cases as may, from time to time,
 “ occur, with the success, that a general register
 “ and record may be kept for the information of
 “ the Publick.”

Their methods of treatment, and offered re-
 wards, entirely correspond with ours. Indeed their
 publication is chiefly a transcript of our own, ex-
 cepting such alterations as have a local reference.
 There is also a judicious addition respecting the
 treatment of the frozen, viz. that they must first
 be rubbed with snow, or spunged with cold water
 till unfrozen, and then gradually brought into
 warmth, and assisted by the other means.

We hear that several persons have been reco-
 vered in consequence of the above Institution,
 but have not been made acquainted with the parti-
 culars.

In the month of October of the same year,
 some active gentleman in the city of *Norwich*
 formed

formed a plan for the establishment of an Institution in favour of drowned persons, which they have happily put into execution. They have done us the honour to follow our example respecting the methods recommended, the premiums they offer, and the appointment of Medical Assistants.

Early in the year 1775, Mr. *J. Rotheram* published, by order of the trustees of *Nathaniel* late Lord *Crewe*, a sheet, containing an address to the people of *Newcastle*, with rules, directions, and cautions, proper to be observed in the treatment of drowned persons, and in other cases of apparent sudden, and accidental death.

A Society was also formed the same year in the city of *Cork*, in *Ireland*. A few months afterwards Dr. *Townsend*, one of the Medical Assistants, favoured us with an instance of success, (see Case LV. Letter N.). This gentleman has also been instrumental of saving one person, and restoring another in the year 1776. (See Case C. of these Reports).

In the month of *August*, 1775, Mr. *Thomas Reynolds*, of *Exeter*, one of his Majesty's coroners for the counties of *Devon* and *Cornwall*, applied to us for advice and assistance, to enable him to introduce a similar plan in that part of the kingdom. The society, in consequence of this application, presented Mr. *Reynolds* with two dozen of our Reports, and two hundred sheets, containing the methods of treatment, in order to facilitate his design; and promised him also every other assistance in their power.

September 1775, Mr. *Charles Scott*, in a letter addressed to the Society, informed us that the Mayor and Corporation of the town of *Hull*, proposed

posed to establish an Institution also, and desired us to furnish them with a particular account of our methods of proceeding. Some of our Plans and Reports, with samples of our bills, &c. were, in consequence of this application, transmitted to that gentleman.

We are also assured, that a Society is establishing in the town of *Bedford*, under the patronage of — *Whitbread*, Esq; one of the members of parliament for that borough.

We have already given an account of the success which has attended the Institution for the Recovery of Drowned Persons at *Liverpool*; we will here subjoin a particular account of that Institution in the words of the gentleman who has favoured us with it :

“ The translation of the *Amsterdam Memoirs*, together with the spirited exertions of Dr. *Cogan* and Mr. *Hawes*, for establishing a similar Society in England, first engaged the attention of the Medical Gentlemen in *Liverpool* to the subject. So early as September, 1773, Dr. *Houlston* published in the papers the means to be made use of for the recovery of drowned persons, and caused copies of them to be struck off, and given to the pilots, &c. In the beginning of 1775, the late Mr. *William Pickering*, Surgeon, proposed, to the corporation of *Liverpool*, to defray the expences incurred in such attempts; to the trustees of the infirmary there, to admit such casualties as patients; and to the physicians and surgeons of the same, to direct and superintend the treatment of all such cases. The Plan met with general approbation, and, for the prosecution of it, a convenient room was rented

ted in the neighbourhood of the docks, for the reception of bodies, and a great number of printed papers, containing the instructions (nearly the same as yours) and the rewards offered, were extensively distributed by the magistrates at granting the licences.

“ The Medical Assistants, Dr. Robson, Dr. Richmond, Dr. Houlston, Mr. Park, Mr. Lyon, and Mr. Allanson, who have generously engaged to give their attendance *gratis*, have seen the means properly applied, and steadily persevered in, in all the cases which have occurred. The seven first proved unsuccessful, notwithstanding the application for two or three hours of warmth, friction, volatile stimulants, tobacco glysters, inflation of the lungs, and in some cases, Bronchotomy, opening a vein, or the temporal artery. They were as follows, from October 14, 1775, to October 14, 1776).

October 14, 1774, Patrick Kavanagh, was in the water near *half an hour*; the means were continued *two hours*.—*Nov. 18*, A young Man, above *half an hour*; the means, *one hour*.—*Dec. 10*, *James Hawkins*, *quarter of an hour*; the means, *three hours*.—*Jan. 19, 1776*, *George Lang*, *ten minutes*; the means, *three hours*.—*Feb. 15*, *James Weaver*, an invalid, *a few minutes*; the means, *one hour*.—*March 11*, A Man, *ten minutes*; the means, *three hours*.—*March 15*, *John Nicholson*, Captain of the Dock-watch, *not ten minutes*; the means, *three hours*.

“ It should be observed, that most of the above were in liquor, in which state suffocation quickly takes place, and that they were all drowned in the docks,

docks, which, from their situation, (in some measure central in the town) give frequent occasion to such accidents. None of them shewed the least sign of life."

The five next attempts proved successful, as will appear from the Reports of the communicated Cases.

The methods of treatment are nearly the same as ours: the rewards are as follow :

The person, or first persons (not exceeding four in number) taking up and bringing the body, and giving all the assistance in their power, will, for so doing, receive half a guinea; and in case of recovery, one guinea, &c.

Copy of a Letter from Dr. *Cameron*, dated *Worcester*, Nov. 24, 1776, to the Treasurer.

" SIR,

" THE humanity of your Institution, for the Recovery of Persons apparently drowned, and the astonishing success you have met with, must, I think, interest and delight every one who has any portion of benevolence in his composition, or any regard for the welfare of his fellow creatures; and the part, Sir, which you sustain in the Society, if one may judge of the tree by its fruit, induces me to believe, I am not mistaken in thinking that it will give you pleasure to hear, that we are on the eve of establishing a similar Society for this city and its environs. From the same source too I draw my assurance that you will excuse the liberty now taken by one who is an utter stranger to you, but who is indeed in some measure united to you,
by

by having the same views and designs ; for from the first public intimation of this kind, I hoped somebody of consequence in this part of the country would propose such an establishment. As that however has not been the case, I lately took an opportunity which offered, of mentioning it to our Lord Lieutenant*, who nobly answered, ‘ He should be always willing to promote any scheme that had the good of mankind for its object.’

“ Under such patronage, I have already got the names of near thirty of the principal inhabitants of this town, though I only began a week ago, and no public notice has yet been given : so that I flatter myself we shall, in a little time, be able to carry our plan into execution ; and that I might have every information necessary to promote it, I have read your last year’s publication, and have sent for Dr. *Cullen’s* Letter to Lord *Cathcart* ; and so far as my knowledge of physic goes, your instructions seem highly proper and sufficient. But as experience often teaches us what reason will not, you may possibly have made some discoveries, and consequently improvements, since the commencement of this year. If this should be the case, and you will favour me with them, and with any thing else you may deem worthy of notice, you will confer a very great obligation on

“ Your faithful, and

“ obedient humble servant,

“ CHARLES CAMERON.”

Worcester, November 24, 1776.

* Lord Coventry.

Q

Copy

Copy of a Letter from Dr. *Haygarth*, to the Treasurer, dated *Chester*, Dec. 2, 1776.

"S I R,

"THE Society established in London, for recovering persons apparently drowned, having, with great public spirit and humanity introduced into Britain; an Institution that will probably be productive of very extensive good consequences, in preserving many valuable lives that would otherwise have been lost, either from inattention or improper treatment. I deem it an indispensable duty to inform you, that, influenced by your benevolent example, like regulations have been formed in this part of the island. This account, I doubt not, will give your Society a pleasing satisfaction, which they well deserve to enjoy. The annexed plan, which I had the honour of presenting to the Governors of Chester Infirmary, and which has received their approbation, is nearly the same as the judicious and successful regulations of your Society. The few insignificant alterations that were made were chiefly occasioned by our peculiar situation. I have the farther satisfaction of informing you, that the Institution is so much approved, that some generous subscriptions have been already made to support the expence of this separate Charity ; and that probably no supply will be required from the ordinary contributions to the Infirmary. This account I thought due to your respectable Society, from

Your very humble servant,
JOHN HAYGARTH.

From

“ From the plan transmitted to us we learn, that the Rewards are the same as those given at Liverpool ; that the Physicians and Surgeons of the *Chester Infirmary* have also engaged to attend *gratis* ; that near the places where these dangerous accidents are likely to happen, both on the river *Dee* and the Canal, a house is fixed upon in each station, that is, the *Infirmary* ; the house of Industry ; a house near the Sluices ; a house in *Cow-lane*, near the bridge ; and the *Dee side Bowling Green house* ; to be distinguished by an inscription on the front, where instruments are to be kept for dragging the body out of the water as expeditiously as possible, conveniences for a warm bath, a fumigator, and other means to assist returning life. It is proposed to establish a separate fund, as a supply for the above-mentioned Rewards ; to which all who are desirous of encouraging this salutary and benevolent plan, are requested to send their charitable contributions, and the Governors engage to apply them for this purpose *only*. If encouraged by the protection of medical, or other gentlemen, situated near the sea, rivers, or mines, in *North Wales* and *Cheshire*, it is proposed, with their assistance, to extend these rewards to greater distances from this city. If any person, especially a subscriber to the *Infirmary*, suggest objections, or amendments to this plan, in a letter addressed to the Secretary or otherwise, their remarks will be considered with candour and attention.”

The useful caution given by the Members of the Society at Edinburgh, relative to the treatment of the Frozen, is also adopted by this Society.

The following Letter from Dr. *Johnstone*, of *Kidderminster*, addressed to our Treasurer, acquaints us with the measures which are taken for the promotion of the same beneficent purposes in that place.

“ S I R,

“ AS one who wishes well to the humane endeavours of the Society for recovering the drowned, I have caused a thousand copies of the directions inclosed to be printed, in order to disperse them in this country to excite them to attempts to recover life. Some liberties I have taken to accommodate the diction to the idiom and prejudices of this neighbourhood. I have also been prevailed upon to subscribe my name, as it was thought that might have some weight among such as know me, and might the more heartily engage such to pursue these directions, having in all this no other view than that of promoting the excellent and humane views of the Society, and beg leave to present my respects and hearty wishes to them.

“ I am, Sir,

“ Your most obedient humble servant,

“ J. JOHNSTONE.”

Kidderminster, Dec. 15, 1776.

“ P. S. Formerly I was fortunate enough to restore to life two Children, who were given up for dead after birth, and indeed seemed so, by immersing them in warm water, and keeping them there till they began to breath.

“ If the Society have any commands for me, I am at their service.”

“ We

We shall not publish the Directions, as they are substantially the same with those we have recommended. It gives us great pleasure to find that the Doctor has adopted our ideas concerning the pernicious effect of an indiscriminate use of the lancet. As this subject is important, and the testimony of a Gentleman of sense and learning, must have considerable weight with all unprejudiced minds, we beg leave to transcribe a very judicious observation concerning it :

“ Bleeding, hitherto indiscriminately practised,
 “ is not in chilled bodies rationally attempted till
 “ some degree of heat be restored ; and must not
 “ then be considered as absolutely necessary ; for
 “ it has been found by experience to retard and
 “ prevent recovery, and has sometimes proved fatal
 “ to the recovering patient. Whatever may
 “ be expected from it, it is of moment to warn,
 “ that it must not be among the first attempts for
 “ restoring life. The flowing blood manifestly
 “ obstructs the operations that are of clear utility
 “ and absolute necessity ; and bandages visibly
 “ prevent the success of the treatment. It is also
 “ material to observe, that the flowing of blood
 “ from an opened vein, and that freely, is of itself
 “ no conclusive or certain proof that the patient is
 “ recoverable. Blood will often continue to flow
 “ for days after death, from the jugular or other
 “ large vein, which has been opened. The efflux
 “ of blood in this case arises from the gradual accumulation
 “ of the whole mass of red blood in
 “ the veins, and from the great contractile power
 “ of the arterial coats, even after death, to that
 “ degree, as totally to empty the arteries of the
 “ blood ;

“ blood, with which they were distended, and to
 “ push it wholly into the veins. Hence it is that
 “ in dead bodies the arteries are found empty, and
 “ the veins full. Blood, therefore, flowing from
 “ an opened vein, without other signs of life, af-
 “ fords no certain presumption of recovery from
 “ sudden accidents.”

We may add to the above pleasing accounts that
 an Institution is recently established at *Dublin*, for
 the same laudable purposes, and that some Gentle-
 men of the town of *Appleby*, in *Westmoreland*,
 have printed and distributed a large number of
 bills, containing the methods of treatment, to ren-
 der them familiar to the inhabitants of those
 parts.

The COMMITTEE who examined the TREASURER'S
Accounts of the HUMANE SOCIETY, for
the Year 1776, find, that the Balance in the
Treasurer's hands at the end of the year 1775,
was,

£. s. d

275 3 4

That he had received in the course of
the year 1776, —

649 6 0

The sum of this is, —

£924 9 4

And that he has paid, —

593 16 10

So that the balance due to the Soci-
ety, and for which the Treasur-
er is accountable, is, —

} £ 330 12 6

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Some singular C A S E S selected from the Publications of the Conductors of similar Institutions in Holland and France.

WE have repeatedly urged, that although many circumstances have conspired to determine us to pay peculiar attention to the state of *Drowning* persons; yet, a suspension of life from any other cause, is equally susceptible of aid. We have also frequently endeavoured to inculcate the indispensable necessity of perseverance, even in the midst of the most discouraging appearances. For since we are ignorant how long the vital spark may lie dormant, without being extinguished; since we are not acquainted with any other proof of death, but an incipient putrefaction, we ought not rashly to despair, or too hastily give the subject over to the grave, as being irrecoverably lost. It is with a view to demonstrate the truth of both these important facts, that we shall add to our own narratives, some Extracts from foreign publications, which we hope will be an acceptable addition to the other singular instances we have already recorded, and place the doctrines we advance in so striking a point of view, as shall engage the publick to attend equally to every instance of sudden apparent death, from whatever cause, and be indefatigable in the use of means which have proved so amazingly efficacious.

ARTICLE I.

Translated from the DUTCH MEMOIRS.

The following Case is very remarkable, as well for the length of time, as for the manner of treating it.

“ *Amsterdam*, on the 11th of *January*, 1773, at half an hour past four o'clock in the evening, *Hendrik Wignam*, a cork cutter, fell in the canal, (on the *Kyser's Gragt*, near the *Reguliers Gragt*,) being in liquor. By corresponding reports, he had been full *an hour and a quarter* in the water before he was taken out, and at six o'clock was carried to the *Amstel Corps de Garde*, or Guard-house, where the officers of the place cut the wet clothes from his body, and wrapping it up in a blanket, laid it before the fire. When the apothecary, *P. Oosterland* came, he found not the least symptom of life; the body was quite stiffened; the arms and legs were unmanageable, particularly the right arm, which closed firmly to the body. The head hung backward, and the glottis was swelled to the bigness of a man's fist. When the eye-lids were opened, the sight looked dim, and the eyes were turned in the head: the belly was very soft, and but little swelled with water. Mr *Oosterland* had the patient laid before the fire, rubbed his body all over with brandy, while a surgeon was sent for; but the surgeon not being at home, a young apprentice boy appeared, who could not be trusted with performing the operation in any other part but the arm, which was difficult, as the arm was very stiff. One of the assistants moved it with force from the body approaching it towards the fire, where, with continual

nual rubbing, it became more flexible. When the vein was opened, a few drops of blood proceeded from the orifice, which chilled almost directly ; but by a continuance of shaking and rubbing, it began to flow better, yet no change was perceived in the patient. Mr. *Oosterland* then applied the tobacco glister, but found, by introducing the glister pipe, no constriction in the sphincter muscle ; so that one of the assistants was forced to hold the pipe, and the other close the fundament. While a 2d tube was filling with tobacco, the patient was laid on a bench, with the head downwards, and strongly rubbed and shaken : then he was laid again before the fire, and the second glister was applied, which was nearly exhausted when the swelling in the glottis began to abate ; a gentle grumbling was heard in the abdomen, and some moisture and slime issued from the mouth. Upon this, continuing the fumigation, they thought they perceived some motion : they then applied the spir. sal ammon. to the nose, whilst they moved his head different ways. They then forced open his mouth, and endeavoured to pour some brandy in his throat, which, however, ran out of the mouth again, the teeth remaining yet firmly set. It was now already *eight* o'clock, so that they had laboured *two hours* in vain ; yet, for a third time, the fumigator was applied, and the above-mentioned remedies continued ; but by the long heat, the wooden tube of the fumigator burst ; so that the only means left was to rub the patient with brandy, and irritate the nostrils with the spir. sal. ammon. and to try now and then if they could get a few drops of brandy down his throat. They seemed to be gaining some advances

ces by these means, when two brothers of the patient came. One applied directly his mouth to that of the patient, to blow his warm breath into the lungs, whilst Mr. *Oosterland* continued to tickle the nostrils with the spir. sal. ammon. which at last had such effect, that the patient endeavoured to turn himself about, sighed, uttered a sound, and tried to push Mr. *Oosterland*'s hand from his nose. Also on the enquiry of his brother whether he knew him? he answered faintly *yes*, and just opened his eyes. By degrees he recovered more and more: it was now more than half past *nine* o'clock when Mr. *Oosterland* left him. He returned back at eleven o'clock, and found the patient sitting at the fire to put on his stockings: at half past eleven he was already capable of walking home with his brothers to his house in the *Angelier's-street*. Thus Mr. *Oosterland* had the good fortune, by his indefatigable labour of near *four hours*, and the faithful assistance of the Corps de Garde, to save a fellow creature, whom many perhaps would have abandoned much sooner, as absolutely lost. These zealous endeavours we have chearfully rewarded, and we recommend them to every one as an example worthy of imitation.

A R T I C L E II.

From the FRENCH.

January 24, 1773, a Child four years of age, the son of a workman in the paper manufactory, late established at *Moutieres*, fell into the river *Bresse*, nor was he taken out of the water till *an hour* had expired. He was laid in a bed, and well covered with blankets. *Two hours* after this a Medical gentleman arrived, and extending himself upon the child's body, blew forcibly into his mouth,

mouth, at the same time closing the nostrils. Afterwards, placing the patient near the fire, he rubbed him with flannels, brandy, and dissolved salt, while a pipe and some tobacco were sent for; but before these could be procured, the child began to give signs of life, and in a short time enjoyed as perfect a state of health as before the accident.

This Case, which is supported by unquestionable evidence, is very interesting to humanity, and proves of what importance it is to apply means conformable to the situation and circumstances of the patient, and by what simple methods life may sometimes be restored.

A R T I C L E III.

Translated from the FRENCH.

The following Case, which is strictly agreeable to truth, cannot be too extensively published, as it proves the great danger, and even inhumanity, of immediately abandoning newly-born infants when apparently dead, instead of assiduously persevering in the trial of every method that may restore them to life.

“A pupil in Midwifry in *Manheim*, being sent for to Lampertheim on Good Friday last, to a woman in labour, found her in a very weak state in consequence of an hæmorrhage of 15 days continuance. He delivered her of a boy perfectly formed, but who, though all the means usual in such cases were tried, gave no signs of life. Fortunately the practitioner recollected, that when he had separated the funis umbilicalis, its artery was filled with blood, from which he concluded, that the death of the child was not occasioned by the mother's hæmorrhage;

morrhage; for when that is the case, the umbilical artery is generally empty and flaccid. This consideration encouraged him try the following experiment :

“ Having placed the child in a bath of warm wine, he applied his mouth to that of the patient, and blew into it, closing the nostrils with the right hand, that the breath might be impelled into the trachea, while, with his left hand, he rubb'd the abdomen; by these means producing a kind of artificial respiration. He continued this operation during the space of *half an hour*, without perceiving any effect, except that the colour of the body became more animated. This slight prospect of success made him persist in his endeavours. After ten minutes the infant suddenly breathed in a convulsive manner, and uttered a plaintive cry, but without repeating these symptoms. He now observed a slight pulsation in the funis umbilicalis, but without any perceptible motion of the thorax. Encouraged by these favourable appearances, he continued to blow into the mouth of the child, who soon gave repeated sighs, and in a little time the patient's compleat recovery was the reward of these assiduous attempts in which this gentleman had persevered during three quarters of an hour.*

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* We have inserted in the Reports of the Year 1774, Page 70, two Cases of a similar nature, merely as instances of the success which will sometimes attend our assiduous use of suitable methods in the case of still-born children. For the same ends we will also subjoin the following Case communicated to us by Dr. Houlston :

“ A friend of mine, Mr. Wright Gleave, Surgeon, in Liverpool, delivered the wife of Mr. Thomas Clarke, Salt-boiler there, of a Son, August 21, 1776. This woman had a deformed Pelvis, and had not been delivered of her other children (except one at 7 months

Examples of Cures in several different kinds of Suffocation.

ARTICLE IV.

From the DUTCH MEMOIRS.

Rotterdam, Nov. 2, 1773. Bernard Beuckman, whose boat was fastened to the side of the *Rotte*, (the name of a canal) went into the cabin about eight o'clock in the evening, with an earthen pot, containing fire. He had put a piece of wood under the hatch, in order to admit the air; but by some unknown accident, the wood dropt out, and the hatch was closed. About eight o'clock the next morning, *William de Koster*, and *William de Winter*, saw the boat floating, opened the hatch, and found the boatman suffocated, without any signs of life, the fire-pot still remaining between his feet. They called *Simon Van Yperen* as a witness to the accident, who immediately went to fetch M. *Adrien Vander Ceys*. This person rubbed the spirits of sal ammoniac upon the man's nostrils, and opening his mouth, poured into it some geneva. He then ordered him to be conveyed into a house by the side of a river, and rubbed his breast and loins with hot cloths. Half an hour after this, a vein was opened in the arm, which

months) without the help of instruments. She now had a laborious, lingering time; but at the end of two days, was delivered naturally. The child's head was much elongated. It had nei her respiration, pulsation, nor motion; and was judged by all the by-standers to be dead. It remained thus ten minutes at least, though Mr. Gleave had very judiciously employed immediately frictions on the chest, temples, soles of the feet, &c. change of posture, and inflation of the lungs. After these had been persevered in near a quarter of an hour, some pulsation of the heart was perceived; soon after, some motion, and then a general convulsion came on, which lasted near ten minutes; after which, the child cried, and recovered perfectly.

which bled to the quantity of about six ounces. He opened the patient's mouth a second time, and having poured some sal ammoniac down his throat, he thought he perceived a pulsation in the carotid artery, notwithstanding all the attendants persisted in their assertions that the man was dead irrecoverably. The surgeon placed him before a large fire, blew at first air, and afterwards the fumes of tobacco; and twice endeavoured to administer the decoction of tobacco by way of glyster, but it was in vain, the sphincter muscle being entirely relaxed. He now began to despair, yet he repeated the fumigation, while two others continued the frictions, and he again imagined that he observed some motion. He redoubled his efforts, again poured some spirits of sal ammoniac into the mouth, and had recourse to a third glyster, which the patient retained. In a few minutes the blood flowed properly from the orifice in the arm; the countenance appeared inflated, and he vomited up some pieces of bacon and gingerbread which he had eaten the preceding evening. After this attention for the space of about an hour and an half, the man seemed to fall into a profound sleep, without the least motion of his head, hands, or feet. The surgeon resolved to apply four blisters to his legs, which he did in the presence, and with the approbation of Dr. *Veirac*. The success was such, that at seven in the evening *Beukman* recovered his feelings, senses, and speech. The next day he went in good health to the house into which he had been received, and related the circumstances preceding his suffocation.

A R T I C L E V.

Translated from the FRENCH.

Poitiers, July 5, 1775. The second of last month two masons, of the city of Chatellerault, descending into a well, in order to clean it, attempted to clear the bottom from whence issued a bituminous exhalation, which hindered them from working. To cure this exhalation, they thought proper to burn charcoals; but this remedy proved worse than the disease; one of them fell down almost suffocated, and would not have escaped the danger, but by the care of the other, who, not being immediately affected by the vapours to so great a degree, had strength enough to draw his companion out of it. However, the last, trusting too much to himself, would descend again into the well to seek for his tools, where he fell down dead. It was not without risk that they came to assist him: in short, after having fastened him with much difficulty, they drew him out of the well. Instantly Mr. *Justare*, surgeon to the hospital, and his nephew, Mr. *Dupre*, came to him; and after having twice bled the patient, they applied the fumes of tobacco to the nose and mouth, and administered dry frictions over the body, and placed him in the open air, the head being bent a little forward, which occasioned the expulsion of a great deal of bloody phlegm from the mouth and nostrils, and procured the return of life, and of perfect senses to the patient, in the space of *two hours*. During the two following days he took a vomit, and drank lemonade, &c.

A R T I C L E VI.

Perpignan, October 12. Two persons descended in a cellar that had been shut up close for some
S
time,

time, and in which there was a vessel full of fermenting grape juice; hardly had they approached the vessel, but they were seized and struck down by the vapours. A feeble cry was heard, and a man attempted to go to their assistance; but he was scarcely got down, when he shared the same fate with the former. A second made the same attempt; but as he was half way down the steps, he felt himself suffocating: he gave a sign, and was drawn out half dead.

M. de Bonafos, physician to the hospital of the militia of Perpegnan, having been informed of this accident, began, by dispersing of the mob, to admit air into the cellar, which was already opened on all sides. A great quantity of cold water was next thrown into it, to give density and circulation to the atmosphere, and to counteract the malignity of the vapours. Some moments after, they found the person who had been last attacked, agitated with convulsive motions, and they drew him out immediately. As soon as he was exposed to the free air, he was in a perfect delirium. *M. de Bonafos* ordered him to be rubbed directly with vinegar. He now began to breathe, and in less than a quarter of an hour he was entirely out of danger. The two others, who were also taken out, but senseless, without motion or pulse; they were restored to life by the same means, but with much more difficulty than the first.

A R T I C L E VII.

Monf. Pia, who superintends the publication of the *Cases*, which present themselves in the city of *Paris*, and the different provinces of France, has subjoined to his last publication, a memoir, concerning the pernicious effects of lighted charcoal.

coal. This Memoir was presented to him by Mr. *Harmant* of *Nancy*, consulting physician in ordinary to the late King of *Poland*, &c. It contains an accurate description of the morbid appearances which take place in a body destroyed by the vapours of burning charcoal, as investigated by dissection; and likewise the symptoms peculiar to this species of suffocation, by which it may be distinguished from others. It enquires also into the proximate cause of the effect produced, and lays down the consequent plan of treatment. It is further enriched with a number of very astonishing instances of restoration to life, simply by exposure to the cold air, and sprinkling cold water in the face in great quantities, and with the most obstinate perseverance, all of which have fallen under Mr. *Harmant's* immediate inspection. We could wish to give the whole in an English dress; but this being impracticable, we have selected the following Case from several others, equally curious and interesting, as illustrative of his manner of treatment, and demonstrative of its amazing efficacy.

“ *December 23, 1764*, I was sent for by *M. de Potier*, Knight of the royal and military order of *St. Lewis*, &c. at *Nancy*, to hasten with the utmost expedition to his mansion, to attend his cook, who was dangerously ill. It was about *eight* o'clock in the morning when the messenger came to my house; but as I was not at home, they had recourse to another physician. This gentleman judging, from the appearance of the patient, that it was an apoplectic fit, he ordered the remedies usual in such cases, but without any effect. Clysters of tobacco, with coliquintida, made not the least impression. They

concluded that the patient was absolutely dead, and from that moment every remedy was discontinued.

It was not before *two o'clock* in the afternoon that I was informed either of the invitation in the morning, or of the state of the patient. I ran to his assistance. As I was entering the doors, the other physician happened to meet me, told me the cook was dead, and that every kind of aid had been administered in vain.

This account did not abate my desires to succour the unfortunate object. I went into the room where the supposed corpse, yet in bed, was exposed to the sight of a multitude of spectators, all of whom seemed affected with the event.

They were already preparing for his funeral. I immediately examined his body with the strictest attention; I found his face livid, and a little swollen; the eyes half open, bright, prominent; the mouth closed, teeth fixed, the neck enlarged, the belly very much swoln: there was neither pulse nor respiration.

By these different symptoms I concluded immediately that they were the effect of the vapour of lighted charcoal. I made enquiry upon this subject of all the domestics. The kitchen girl informed me, that he had retired to his chamber about *eleven o'clock* the preceding evening, in good health; that she had carried up, by his order, a brasier, with charcoal; that finding he did not make his appearance in the kitchen at the usual hour, she concluded that he was still asleep; but perceiving that it grew late, she went into the room in order to awaken him, and then she found him in the situation in which I had seen him.

This account confirming my conjectures, I prepared to administer assistance. I ordered him
to

to be immediately taken out of the bed and out of the chamber, and had him placed naked upon a seat in a court by the side of a fountain. After he was properly fixed, I began with throwing cold water in his face by glassfuls. I desired several of the assistants to follow my example, but they complied with reluctance, being prepossessed that the man was dead, and that my attempts were fruitless.

More than *an hour* elapsed before the patient had discovered any signs of sensibility. The attendants began to despair, and to animate their courage, I assured them that in a short time they would perceive their error. This assurance, join'd to my entreaties, made them renew the application of the water ; they threw it with greater force, and more frequently than before, which soon produced a slight hickup.

This first symptom having struck them like a resurrection, the noise thereof was soon spread throughout the mansion, and several persons of distinction ran to the place ; I ordered the administration of cold water to be continued in their presence, frequently, and by glassfuls. The hiccoughs became stronger and more frequent, and I perceived that the teeth began to relax.

I had ordered cylinders of liquorice root to be prepared. I introduced some with the utmost difficulty between the teeth, to hinder them from fixing again, and we soon perceived the efforts of the air attempting to enter the chest, and of the chest endeavouring to distend and contract itself.

I ordered Spanish snuff also to be blown into the nostrils with a view to excite sneezings, tho' without this effect ; but the attendants perceived him to
move

move his head, and give manifest signs of sensation; he moved also his right hand and fingers, as if he wished to raise them to his nose. This new indication of his *Resurrection* gave the highest satisfaction to the company.

The projection of water was continued with vigour, and the frequency of the hiccoughs increased proportionably. This remedy excited a slight vomiting of nauseous matter. I had already spent *three compleat hours* in attempting the recovery, and had advanced no further than to the symptoms mentioned above; but they portended a perfect cure. This I intimated to the attendants, and persevered in the application of the cold water.

The continuance of this simple remedy at length procured a vomiting of frothy matter, resembling soap suds, to which succeeded the most violent efforts of the chest to relieve itself. The body of the patient began to be greatly agitated, and to raise itself. All the members, and particularly the fingers and toes, became violently contracted. In a word he uttered a cry which I had presaged to be the most certain sign of returning life. I redoubled at the same time the projection of the water, and this renewal produced a fresh discharge of saponaceous matter, with new attempts to respire. The movement of the body redoubled with such agitation, that they seemed to indicate the pain which the patient suffered from so long a continuance of our method of treatment.

I was persuaded, by the most urgent entreaties, to convey the patient from the open court, where we all experienced the severest cold, into a warmer place. At first I opposed their entreaties, but was at length obliged to yield to the requests of his relations.

relations. He was conveyed into the kitchen; but what I had feared and predicted, came to pass. The patient was no sooner conveyed thither, than he relapsed into his former state of insensibility. We were obliged to open the windows and doors immediately, in order to obtain the greatest degree of cold possible, and renew the projection of water, which we fortunately found at hand. Three hours more were employed in this exercise; and between eight and nine o'clock in the evening the subject began to cry out with violence, and was seized with a universal trembling.

I now conducted myself as in the former cases, and ordered him to be put to bed.

I visited him about half past ten o'clock in the evening, I found him perfectly sensible, but his belly was distended, and his body was seized with shiverings at intervals. I ordered a glyster to be applied, and a ptisan of chicken broth with nitre, to be given him, and also the vulnerary mixture, with the liquor mineralis Hoffmanni. These medicines having appeased the latter symptoms, I learned the next morning that he had passed a good night. The pulse was become more regular, and the pain in the head less, as also the shiverings, and there only remained a sensation of fatigue, and a small distention of the abdomen, occasioned by the wind.

The fourth day our patient finding himself radically cured by the continuance of proper remedies, determined to go the foot of the altar, and return thanks to God for preserving him from being interred alive; a miserable event which would indubitably have taken place, had it not been for the application of this efficacious remedy!"

P L A N
OF THE
S O C I E T Y,
AND THE
METHODS OF TREATMENT
OF
DROWNED PERSONS.

I. **T**HE Society has undertaken to publish, in as extensive a manner as possible, the proper methods of treating persons in those unfortunate circumstances.

II. To distribute a premium of *Two Guineas* among the first persons, not exceeding *four* in number, who will attempt to recover man, woman, or child, taken out of the water for dead, within thirty miles of the cities of *London* and *Westminster*; provided they had not been longer than *two hours* under the water; and provided the Assistants persevere in the use of the means recommended, and no others, unless under the direction of a regular practitioner, for the space of *two hours*. This reward to be given, though they may *not* prove successful.

III. To distribute in like manner *Four Guineas* wherever the patient has been restored to life.

A

IV.

IV. To give to any publican, or other, who shall admit the body into his house without delay, and furnish the necessary accommodations, the sum of *One Guinea*; and also to secure them from the charge of burial, in unsuccessful cases.

V. A certain number of Medical gentlemen, stationed near to the places where disasters by water are most frequent, have engaged to give their assistance *gratis*: these gentlemen are to have a fumigator, and other necessaries, always in readiness.

METHODS of TREATMENT.

I. In removing the body to a convenient place, great care must be taken that it be not bruised, nor shaken violently, nor roughly handled, nor carried over any one's shoulders with the head hanging downwards, nor rolled upon the ground, or over a barrel, nor lifted up by the heels. For experience proves, that all these methods are injurious, and often destroy the small remains of life. The unfortunate object should be cautiously conveyed by two or more persons, or in a carriage upon straw, lying as on a bed with the head a little raised, and kept in as natural and easy a position as possible.

II. The body being well dried with a cloth, should be placed in a moderate degree of heat, but not too near a large fire. The windows or door of the room should be left open, and no more persons be admitted into it than those who are absolutely necessary, as the life of the patient greatly

greatly depends upon their having the benefit of a pure air. The warmth most promising of success is that of a bed, or blanket, properly warmed. Bottles of hot water should be laid at the bottoms of the feet, in the joints of the knees, and under the arm-pits; and a warming pan, moderately heated, or hot bricks wrapped in cloths, should be rubbed over the body, and particularly along the back. The natural and kindly warmth of a healthy person lying by the side of the body, has been found in many cases very efficacious. The shirt or clothes of an attendant, or the skin of a sheep fresh killed, may also be used with advantage. Should these accidents happen in the neighbourhood of a warm bath, brew-house, baker, glass-house, saltern, soap-boiler, or any fabrick, where warm lees, ashes, embers, grains, sand, water, &c. are easily procured, it would be of the utmost service to place the body in any of these, moderated to a degree of heat, but very little exceeding that of a healthy person.

III. The subject being placed in one or other of these advantageous circumstances as speedily as possible, various stimulating methods should next be employed. The most efficacious are,—to blow with force into the lungs, by applying the mouth to that part of the patient, closing his nostrils with one hand, and gently expelling the air again by pressing the chest with the other, imitating the strong breathing of a healthy person: the medium of a handkerchief or cloth may be used to render the operation less indelicate. Whilst one Assistant is daily employed in this operation, another should throw the smoke of tobacco up by the fundament into the bowels, by means of a

pipe or fumigator, such as are used in administering clysters: a pair of bellows may be used until the others can be procured. A third attendant should, in the mean time, rub the belly, chest, back and arms, with a coarse cloth, or flannel, dipped in brandy, rum, gin, or with dry salt, so as not to rub off the skin: spirits of hartshorn, volatile salts, or any other stimulating substance, must also be applied to the nostrils, and rubbed upon the temples very frequently. The body should at intervals be shaken also, and varied in its position.

IV. If there be any signs of returning life, such as sighing, gasping, twitching, or any convulsive motions, beating of the heart, the return of the natural colour and warmth; opening a vein in the arm or neck may prove beneficial, but the quantity of blood taken away should not be large; nor should an *artery* ever be opened, as *profuse bleeding* has appeared prejudicial, and even destructive to the small remains of life. The throat should be tickled with a feather, in order to excite a propensity to vomit; and the nostrils also with a feather, snuff, or any other stimulant, so as to provoke sneezings. A tea-spoonful of warm water may be administered now and then, in order to learn whether the power of swallowing be returned; and if it be, a table spoonful of warm wine, or brandy and water, may be given with advantage; but not before, as the liquor might get into the lungs before the power of swallowing returns. The other methods should be continued with vigour, until the patient be gradually restored.

We

We have been as circumstantial as possible in the above directions, that if one conveniency should be wanting, the attendants may not be at a loss for others. Where the patient has lain but a short time senseless, blowing into the lungs or bowels has been, in some cases, found sufficient: yet a *speedy* recovery is not to be expected in general. On the contrary, the above methods are to be continued with spirit for *two hours or upwards*, although there should not be the least symptoms of returning life. The vulgar notion that a person will recover in a few minutes, or not at all; and the ignorant, foolish, ridiculing, of those who are willing to persevere, as if they were attempting impossibilities, has most certainly caused the death of many who might otherwise have been saved.

Most of the above rules are happily of such a nature, that they may be begun *immediately*, and that by persons who are not acquainted with the Medical art; yet it is always advisable to seek the assistance of some regular practitioner as soon as possible; not only as bleeding is proper, and frequently necessary; but as it is to be presumed that such a one will be more skilful and expert, and better able to vary the methods of procedure, as circumstances may require.

N. B. It is proper to observe, that these means of restoration are applicable to various other cases of apparent deaths; such as hanging, suffocation by damps and noxious vapours, whether proceeding from coal mines, the confined air of wells, cisterns, caves, or the Must of fermenting liquors;

to those seized with apoplectic and convulsive fits, and also to the frozen.

Wherever any good has been produced by the means recommended, the person who has superintended the cure, is desired to write a circumstantial account of it to James Horsfall, Esq; Treasurer, Middle Temple.

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 Dr. Thackeray, *Windsor*
 Mr. Thomas, *Greenwich*
 Mr. Thompson, at the *Chapter Coffee house*
 Mr. Thompson, by Dr. Cogan
 Mr. Thorpe, *Cross lane, St. Mary hill*
 Mr. Thornthwaite, *Islington*
 Mr. Tondero, *Twickenham*
 Mr. Toulmin, *Hackney*
 *** T. Tower, Esq; *Inner Temple* 21 l.
 †*** Rev. Mr. Towers, *Fore street*
 † Matthew Towgood, Esq; *American square*
 *** Mr. Townsend, *Fleet street*
 †*** Mr. Tows, *Salisbury court, Fleet street*
 Timothy Turtle, Esq;
 *** Mr. Tyton, No. 7, *Charing cross*

V

Mr. Vaux, *Pudding lane*
 *** Mrs. V. by Dr. Cogan

Mr.

Mr. Vaughan, *Mincing lane*

+*** John Vowell, jun. Esq; *Watling street*

U

Unknown, by Mr. Hemings, *Kingston*

W

Mr. Waddington, *Waltham abbey*

+*** The Rev. Mr. Walker, *Islington*

Mrs. Walpole

*** Boucher Walton, Esq; *Throgmorton street*

*** Mr. Warrand, *Minories*

Mrs. Ann Wastefield, *Mile End*, the Legacy of
R. Wastefield, Esq; 10l.

Mr. Waterhouse, *Kingston*

Dr. Watkinson, *Fenchurch street*

*** Richard Watlington, Esq; *Pall-mall*

Dr. Watson, F. R. S. *Lincoln's-inn-fields*

Mr. Watson, *Holborn*

Mr. Watson, *Ponder's End*

Mr. Webb, *Brentford*

Mr. Webb, *Weybridge*

Mr. Wheeler, *Greenwich*

Mr. White, *Queen street, Southwark*

Mr. Wilkinfon, *Bow*

Mr. Williams, *Wapping*

Mr. Williamson, *Windsor*

** Edward Wynne Esq; *Temple*

*** Rev. Dr. Wilson, *Westminster*

*** Sam. Whitbread, Esq; *Chiswell street, 10l. 10s.*

*** Mr. Withy, *Craven street, Strand*

G. Wood, Esq; *at the London Coffee house*

Mr. Wood, Surgeon, *Woolwich yard*

Mr. Wood, *Woolwich*

Mr.

Mr. Worster, *Walham Green*, by Mr. Parry, *Fulbam*

†** Mr. Woodfall, *Salisbury court*

† Mr. Wright, *Essex street*

Mr. Wright, near *Westminster bridge*

† Mr. Wyatt, *Fleet street*

** Mr. Wynde, *Bedford-row*

Mr. Wrigglesworth, *Minories*

X

A. X. at the *London Coffee house*

Y

His Grace the Archbishop of York: 104.

A
B R I E F A C C O U N T
O F T H E
S O C I E T Y
F O R T H E

Recovery of Persons apparently dead by
drowning, Suffocation, or any sudden
Death.

From its first Establishment in *May*, 1774, to the
End of the Year 1776.

From *May* to the End of *December*, 1774.

Restored to life the following persons, for whose
recovery the Society paid the premiums.

1. *John Joseph*, iron-founder, *Falcon Stairs*
2. *Frederic Woolbert*, attended by Mr. *Hodson*, at
Wapping
3. *John Harrington*, attended by Mr. *Patten*, of
Radcliffe Cross
4. Capt. *Scot*, attended by Mr. *Nelham*, of *Lime-*
house
5. *James Beckett*, attended by Mr. *Corney*, of *St.*
John's
6. *Nicholas Groome*, attended by Mr. *Smith*, of
Limehouse
7. *Robert*

7. *Robert Horne*, attended by *Mr. Hales, Limehouse*
8. *A young Woman*, attended by *Mr. Milford*

N. B. The Reports for the Year 1774 give a circumstantial Account of the above Cases.

From January to December 31, 1775.

1. *Bernard Riley*, attended by *Mr. Waring, Thames-street*
2. ——— *Bailey*, attended by *Mr. Macglassen*
3. *Francis Pickup*, saved by *Leonard Cowley* and *William Mason*
4. ——— *Cambell*, attended by *Mr. Church, Islington*
5. *Jacob Hill*, saved by *Roger Dusty* and *Joseph Campbell*
6. *Thomas Pattenson*, attended by *Mr. Church, Islington*
7. *James Pike*, attended by *Mr. Powsey, of Poplar*
8. *William Plunket*, saved by *Lucius Vanderpump* and *William Pendegram*.
9. *Anthony Sullivan*, attended by *Mr. Powell, Chelsea*
10. *John Venables*, attended by *Mr. Joseph Knight*
11. *James Johnson*, saved by *Richard Thomas* and ——— *Johnson*
12. *James Norris*, saved by *Mr. Bennet, Wapping*
13. *A Child*, attended by *Mr. Thomas, Wapping*
14. *William Gardiner*, attended by *Mr. Goodwin, Shad Thames*
15. *Thomas Williams*, saved by *Mr. Battiscomb, Black Fryars*
16. *William Scotman*, attended by *Mr. Ansel, Brentford*
17. *A Boy*, attended by *Mr. Stevens, Radcliffe-cross*
18. *A Boy*

18. *A Boy*, attended by Mr. Jones, *Islington*
19. *A Man* saved by *Thomas Flyde*
20. *Deborah Green*, attended by Mr. Clifton, *Islington*
21. *David Adamson*, attended by Mr. Cotton, *Black-wall*
22. *A Child*, aged 3 years, attended by Mr. Morrison
23. *Sarah Anderson*, attended by Mr. Ramsey
24. *James Bates*, attended by Mr. Carter
25. *Mary Riley*, attended by Mr. Haynes, *Islington*
26. *A Man*, taken out of an Ice-well, attended by Mr. Billingshurst
27. *George Posnett*, attended by Mr. Waring, *Rotherhithe*
28. *Thomas Garland*, attended by Mr. House, *Lambeth*
29. *Catharine Leveridge*, attended by Mr. Roberts, *Islington*
30. *A Child*, aged five years, attended by Mr. Palser, *Hammersmith*
31. *John Adam Falkenhagen*, attended by Mr. Curtis *Islington*
32. *William Lane*, attended by Mr. Vaux

The following persons have been *restored to Life*, (the particulars of which were communicated to the Society by Medical Gentlemen and others) in consequence of their Method of Treatment being generally known.

33. *Jane Donnelly* in a disordered state hanged herself, and was to all appearance dead; she was recover'd by Mr. Thomas, of *Greenwich*
34. *A Girl*, restored by Mr. Clowes, of *Henley*
35. *John Beesly*, restored by Mr. Rose, of *Putney*
36. *James Syms*, restored by Mr. Rundell, of *Bath*

37. *A young Man*, restored by Mr. Badger, of Worcester
38. *A young Man*, restored by Mr. Agar, of New York
39. *A Girl*, restored by Mr. Squires, of Wardour-street, Soho
40. *A Boy*, restored by Dr. Townsend, of Cork
41. *Christopher Walton*, restored by Dr. Ward and Mr. Lascelles, of Gainsborough
42. *Thomas Tuffield*, restored by Mr. Rigby, of Norwich
43. *A—— B——*, restored by Dr. Kipping, of Brightbelmstone
44. *A Man*, restored by Mr. House, of Wycombe, &c.
45. *John Sage*, restored by Mr. Stebbing, of Ipswich
46. *Master S——*, restored by Dr. Pumphry and Dr. Townsend, of Cork
47. *James Winch*, restored by Mr. Goldwyer, of Reading

N. B. The Reports for the Year 1775 give a circumstantial Account of the above Cases.

From January to December, 1776.

1. *Jane Duffin*, taken out of the Canal, St. James's Park, apparently dead, by Mr. Watson, attended by Messrs. Beaumont and Hawes
2. *Eliz: Martin*, taken out of the River Thames, near Lambeth, by James Jacob, a waterman, apparently dead, and restored by Mr. Burgess.
3. *Mary Ann Richer*, saved from drowning in the New River, Islington, by John Baptist Wood, a lad aged fourteen years.

4. *James*

4. *James Carmichael*, taken up near *Lambeth* by some Fishermen, *apparently dead*, and restored by *Mr. Burges*
5. *James Hervey*, taken out of a Pond, *Islington*, almost dead, by *John Hunt* and *John Day*, Labourers
6. *Samuel Roswell*, a Child aged eight Years, saved from being drowned in the *New River*, *Sadler's Wells*, by *James Hunt*
- *Moore*, a female Child, aged 15 Months, taken out of a Pond, *apparently dead half an hour*, *Paradise Row*, *Islington*, after it had been missed *half an Hour*, restored by *Mr. Adams*, senior, Apprentice to *Mr. Hole*, *Islington*
8. *Mark Harris*, taken out of the *New River* by *Sadler's Wells*, *apparently dead*, restored by *Mrs. Ward*, Publican, attended by *Mr. Clifton*, Apprentice to *Mr. Church*, *Islington*.
9. { *Two Men* saved from drowning in the *Thames*,
near *Limehouse*, by *John Stanley*, a Water-
man
10. {
11. *Thomas Mallet*, a Child taken out of the *Thames*, near *Henly*, *apparently dead*, and restored by *Mr. William Clowes*
12. *Mary Smith*, taken out of a Pond near *Hoxton*, almost dead; and restored by *Mr. Lancelot Roberts*
13. *A poor Woman*, taken out of the *Thames*, near *Black-Lyon Stairs*, *apparently dead*, restored by *Mr. Beaumont*.
14. *Ann Bethel*, a Child aged two Years, taken out of a Dock near the *Thames*, *Wandsworth*, *apparently dead*, restored by *Mr. Beaumont*.

15. *John Chesterman*, taken out of the *Thames* near *Queenbith*, restored by *Mr. Walford*, but he died soon afterwards
16. *Stephen Witwick*, saved from drowning in the *Thames*, near *Arundel-Stairs*, by *Thomas Matthews*, Waterman
17. *A poor Man*, taken out of the *Thames*, near *Iron-Gate*, almost dead, restored by *Mr. Midford*
18. *A Boy*, saved from drowning in the *New-River*, *Islington*, by *John Bell*
19. *William Jones*, saved from being drowned, by *Thomas Hatfield*, a Waterman.
20. *Robert Chisholm*, taken out of the *Thames* near *York-Buildings*, apparently dead, restored by *Mr. Beaumont*
21. *A Girl*, aged fourteen Years, taken out of a Pond near *Islington*, to all appearance totally void of Life. The Recovery commenced by the Attendance, and completed by the Prentice of *Mr. Taylor*, Medical Assistant.
22. *Edward Swan*, taken out of the *Thames*, near *Surry-Stairs*, almost dead, attended by *Mr. Buck*
23. *William Sykes*, aged seven Years, saved from being drowned in the *Thames*, by *Daniel Weston*, Waterman.
24. *Paul Oldfield*, taken out of the *Thames*, almost dead, and restored by four Watermen; attended afterwards by *Mr. Burgefs*.
25. *Williams*, saved from being drowned in the *Thames*, by *John Goodacre*, Waterman
26. *A Woman with Child*, apparently drowned in the *Thames*, near *St. Catharine's-Stairs*, restored by *Mr. John Blunt*
27. *Ann*

27. *Ann Russel*, taken out of the *Thames*, near *York-Buildings*, by four Watermen, and carried to *St. Martin's Work-House*, for dead, recovered by Messrs. *Jervis* and *Harding*
28. *Elizabeth Henfield*, taken out of a Pond near *Islington*, almost drowned, by *Mary Addison* and *Elizabeth Bairbridge*
29. *John Mattox*, aged eight Years, saved from drowning in the *New River*, *Islington*, by *John Finnings*
30. *Dennis Sullivan*, taken out of the *Thames* apparently dead, restored by Mr. *Corney*, but he died afterwards
31. *Thomas Orlibar*, taken out of the River at *Manningtree*, and restored by Mr. *Rogers*
32. *George Edward Williams*, taken out of the *Thames*, near *Black-Friars Stairs*, almost drowned, by *Charles Maynard*, a Waterman
33. *Jane Wright*, taken out of the *Thames*, near *Billingsgate*, apparently dead, restored by Mr. *Vaux*
34. *Elizabeth Taylor*, saved from drowning in the *New River*, *Islington*, by *Richard Potter* and *Michael Higgins*
35. *Mrs. Patrick*, taken out of the *Thames*, nearly drowned, recovered by Mr. *Henry Pierce*
36. { *Mrs. Beck*, }
37. { *Mrs. Bucking*, }
38. { *Mr. Cambell*, }
39. *Pierre Blois*, a *French* Mariner, taken out of the *Thames*, almost drowned, by *John Hill*, Waterman
40. *Mary Cooper*, taken out of the *New River*, *Islington*, apparently dead, attended by Mr. *Church*

Taken out of the *Thames* near *Rotherhithe*,
 (being overfet in a *Greenwich* Hoy.)
Mrs. Cambell, apparently dead, was
 restored by Mr. *Maddox*

41. *Judith*

41. *Judith Lowe*, taken out of the *New River*,
Islington, almost dead, by *Henry Taylor*, at-
 tended by *Mr. Church*

CASES communicated to the SOCIETY in the
 Year 1776.

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| 1. <i>Robert Lunt</i> , taken out of Dock,
apparently dead, restored by
<i>Messrs. Shirt, Cliff, and Lion</i> | } <i>Liverpool.</i> |
| 2. <i>William Roberts</i> , taken out of the
<i>Salt House Dock</i> , attended by
<i>Dr. Houlston</i> | |
| 3. <i>Philip Smith</i> , an Invalid, saved
from drowning, and attended by
<i>Mr. Lyon</i> | |
| 4. <i>James Bryan</i> , taken up almost
drowned, and attended by <i>Mr.</i>
<i>Park</i> | |
| 5. <i>James Jones</i> , taken up apparently
dead, attended by <i>Mr. Lion</i> | } <i>Corke.</i> |
| 6. <i>Amelia Houghton</i> , saved from
drowning by a Sailor | |
| 7. <i>A Fisherman</i> , taken up in extreme
danger, attended by <i>Dr. Towns-</i>
<i>end</i> | |
| 8. <i>A Fisherman</i> , apparently dead, re-
stored by <i>Dr. Townsend</i> | |
| 9. <i>Thomas Ferguson</i> , apparently dead,
restored by <i>Dr. Dawson</i> | } <i>Coldstream</i> |
| 10. <i>Jane Nutman</i> , rendered lifeless
by an extraordinary species of
Suffocation, restored by <i>Dr.</i>
<i>Dawson</i> | |

II. *John*

11. *John Dick*, taken out of a Canal, *apparently dead*, restored by Mr. *Meak*, *Falkirk*

The *Reports* for the Year 1776, give a circumstantial Account of the above *Cases*.

The Number of Lives preserved and Restored since our first Institution amount to *One Hundred and Seven*

N. B. A large Number of Advertisements, containing the Methods of Treatment alone, are Printed in order to be dispersed through various parts of the Kingdom, especially in Sea-Ports, and Towns contiguous to large Rivers; in order to diffuse a Knowledge of the means of assisting Persons in such Critical Situations; and excite Inhabitants to form similar Institutions.

The DIRECTORS have also voted a Silver Medal to the Medical Assistants, or any other Gentlemen who have been the happy Instruments of *Restoration to Life*, as an acknowledgment of their Skill and generous Affiduity.

S U B-

SUBSCRIPTIONS

FOR THE

HUMANE DESIGN of Recovering PERSONS
APPARENTLY DEAD by DROWNING
or SUFFOCATION, are received by

JAMES HORSFALL, Esq; Treasurer, *Middle
Temple.*

Dr. COGAN, No. 11, *Pater-noster-row.*

Mr. HAWES, Apothecary, No. 221, *Strand*

FIVE GUINEAS, or more, at one Payment,
constitute a perpetual Director.

One Guinea per Annum constitutes an annual
Director.

*The Society pay their Rewards in the
following Manner.*

Four Guineas whenever Life has been restored.

Two Guineas in every unsuccessful Attempt,
provided the Mode of Treatment prescribed by
the Society has been used two Hours.

One Guinea to Publicans, &c. who receive the
Bodies readily into their Houses.

R E P O R T S
OF THE
S O C I E T Y
FOR THE RECOVERY OF
P E R S O N S
APPARENTLY
D R O W N E D.

P A R T II.

INSTITUTED, M.DCC.LXXIV.

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FOR SALE BY THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH

REPORTS of the SOCIETY

INSTITUTED IN FAVOUR OF

DROWNED PERSONS, &c.

IT gives us unspeakable pleasure, that we are now able to unite our evidence with that of other nations, in confirmation of a fact equally interesting as it is curious and surprising, *viz.* that persons may, either by immersion in water, or by other species of strangulation, have every corporeal faculty totally suspended, so that they shall, to all appearance, be dead for a considerable length of time, and yet it may be in the power of art to recover them.

The Cases we shall lay before the public, demonstrative of this truth, have either been communicated by gentlemen whose veracity is unquestionable, and who could readily produce a sufficient number of vouchers, were any one to discredit their evidence; or they have fallen under our own immediate inspection.

As to ourselves, we can have no motive to induce us to be absurdly credulous on the one hand, or on the other, attempt to impose falsehoods on the public. The surprising facts recorded by our neigh-

bours, the Dutch and French, induced us to make the like experiments. Had we not succeeded, we should have made our report to the world; and, resting satisfied with the goodness of our intention, we should have left others to draw what consequences they pleased. But *we have succeeded*; and we congratulate our countrymen upon having demonstrated a fact, which we hope will, in process of time, wipe tears from the eyes of thousands: we congratulate ourselves in being the instruments of so much happiness. These were our motives; these are our rewards; and we desire no other.

Since these are the secret springs of our conduct, we lie under no temptation to act disingenuously. We are solicitous, equally with others, to weigh the validity of our undertaking, and ascertain the proportion of usefulness to our fellow-creatures likely to accrue from it; and therefore we hesitate not to declare, that we have paid our proffered rewards, in no less than twelve unsuccessful attempts, while the instances of recovery, in consequence of our institution, are only *four* in number. But so valuable is life, not only to the individual, but to his various connections, that were the cases of success never to bear a greater proportion, we should have no reason to repent of our undertaking.

Yet were it consistent with the proposed brevity of this publication, to give the unsuccessful cases also at large, several instances would sufficiently indicate, that the cause of their failure was owing to adventitious circumstances, which, without affecting our leading principle, rendered it morally impossible to recover the unfortunate objects.

Three of the number had lain in the water from an hour and half to two hours, before they were taken up: and although we have engaged, that we might
err

err on the side of safety, to give our premiums to those who shall attempt the recovery of persons in this state, yet we are not so sanguine as to expect that one in fifty could be restored under such disadvantages. Others, after being taken out, were neglected for a considerable length of time, through the ignorance of the attendants.—In another instance, the person fell into the water as he was fighting. In this case, the body must have been heated to a great degree, and the lungs surcharged with blood; and his restoration would most probably have been impracticable, had the proper means been instantly applied.

In two other cases, although we were not so happy as to succeed, yet we were for some time flattered with such signs of returning life, as demonstrated that the vital spark had not been totally extinguished, though it was not in our power to revive it.

A due consideration of these circumstances so far from discouraging, animates our hopes, that, in the usual course of accidents, we shall proportionably equal other countries in the number of objects snatched from immediate death.

Candour will also make allowance for our present inexperience in attempts of this nature. No rules can be laid down that shall be equally applicable in every case; and our own observations in a few instances will better instruct us in the modes of procedure, than the most minute and circumstantial directions that can be possibly given. It is but just that we assure the public, however, that in all the accidents, where the Medical Gentlemen have been called in, they have discovered so much attention and zeal, as well as skill and expertness in their methods of treatment, that we have every reason to expect

expect considerable success from the continuance of their generous assistance. It is with pleasure we find also, that publicans and others readily admit bodies into their houses, without being such slaves to vulgar prejudices as we might naturally have apprehended ; and that the lower class of people begin to be very assiduous in their endeavours to assist objects in that perilous state. The fourth case we have described is a pleasing specimen and earnest of the good effects of our rewards, in saving the unfortunate from an immediate danger of drowning ; which is full as satisfactory, respecting the good produced, as recovering them after they were to appearance dead.

In giving the history of Cases, the order which naturally presents itself is, first to relate the instances of success which fall under our immediate cognizance, and afterwards those which have been communicated to us by our correspondents.

C A S E I.

July 12, 1774. **T**HOMAS, the son of *John Joseph*, a child aged about 14 months, dwelling by the Iron Foundry near the *Falcon Stairs*, wandering from its mother and other women who were drinking tea together in a chandler's shop, got into a back kitchen, and fell through a trap, the door of which was carelessly left open, into an aqueduct communicating with the River *Thames*. The women heard it fall, and ran to the place, but could not perceive the child. Their screams brought a shoemaker, who lived in an adjacent house, to the place; but he was fearful of jumping in, lest he should fall upon the child. *Thomas Vincent*, a waterman, who was amongst the crowd brought together by the cries of the distressed mother, being informed of the event, ran round by several houses, and climbing over the walls of the aqueduct, waded up to the place to the height of his chest in the water, proceeding cautiously, and feeling for the infant with his feet as he advanced; as he imagined the returning tide might have carried it to a distance from the place: nor was he altogether deceived; for he felt the child about ten feet from the opening. He took it up, and gave it to the women through the hole through which it had fallen. From seven to ten minutes must have elapsed from the falling-in of the child to the time it was taken out. The women upon the strictest
exa-

examination affirmed, that the child was to all appearance dead ; its eyes were fixed, it lay breathless, and void either of motion or pulse. They shook, and beat it on its back for some little time, and then laying it upon a counter in the shop, rubbed its belly and chest with dry salt ; the friction was scarcely continued three minutes before the child began to gasp, and give other signs of returning life, which encreased till they were enabled to pour some salt and water down its throat. This excited a vomiting, by which the child threw up a considerable quantity of water and mud from its stomach, and in a few minutes more it was restored to the joyful arms of its mother. In the course of the evening it had two or three convulsive fits, but these were of short duration, and returned no more. The person who had taken the child out of the water ran for Mr. *Boyse*, one of the Medical Assistants to this Society : he not being at home, his journeyman went to the house, but he found the child pretty well recovered. The waterman had the reward promised by the society.

C A S E II.

ON the 11th of *August*, 1774, in the afternoon, about the time of high water, as *Dederic*, the son of *Dederic Woolbert*, a lad about thirteen years of age, was standing on a wharf near *Wapping New Stairs*, and casting a net, he accidentally fell into the river, in a depth of between 12 and 14 feet. Some persons who saw him fall threw a rope into the water : the boy, as he afterwards informed us, perceived the rope, and caught at it, but missing his aim he sunk, and became immediately senseless.

A wa-

A waterman, who also saw him fall, got a boat hook, and drew him up with some difficulty. He had been under water about ten minutes; when taken out he was to appearance void of life; his face was swollen and livid, there was neither pulse nor respiration, and his limbs were cold and stiff; one leg was considerably contracted. He was conveyed to a public house in the neighbourhood, and Mr. *Hodgson*, surgeon and apothecary in *Wapping*, was immediately sent for, who ordered the wet clothes to be taken off as soon as possible, his body to be rubbed dry with flannels, and then put between two blankets. Four men rubbed him well with salt; bottles of warm water were applied to his arm-pits, to the soles of his feet, &c. In about 25 minutes a little warmth was perceptible; some wine and water warm was then given him; he swallowed about half a small glassful, which excited a cough; a vein was opened, and more of the wine and water was given, which he drank without any difficulty. By the above method he was, in the space of an hour and a half, very well recovered.—The lad appeared before the Society. He said he had been troubled with a difficulty of breathing two or three days after his recovery; and his eyes were still so much inflamed, that what is termed the white of the eyes appeared of a uniform red; which was a sufficient evidence of the extreme danger from which he had been delivered. The presence of a promising youth, as it were risen from the dead, and the gratitude he expressed to the instruments of his preservation, diffused a pleasure over the whole company, which it is easier for a benevolent heart to conceive, than for any words to express.

His account corresponded with the general declaration

ration of persons in his situation, *viz.* that he remained entirely senseless, from the time of his first sinking, to the time of his recovering at the inn.

C A S E III.

The following extraordinary Case, communicated to us by Mr. *Thomas*, Surgeon, at *Greenwich*, one of the Medical Assistants, is a demonstration of the efficacy of similar methods of treatment applied to the unfortunate persons who hang themselves, and indicates the extensive utility of these institutions. We shall relate it in Mr. *Thomas's* own words,

“ON the 14th of *June*, 1774, *Jane Donnelly*, wife of one of the pensioners in the Royal Hospital at *Greenwich*, being in a phrenzy, took the desperate resolution of hanging herself. She lived in a house with several inmates; and about five o'clock in the afternoon was heard to drive a nail. In a few minutes after, a little dog that was in the room began to howl in a very uncommon manner. At first the people paid no attention to the dog, but finding the poor animal become more outrageous, and seemingly in great distress, one of them was induced to open the door, when she discovered the woman hanging in the middle of the room. She immediately alarmed the neighbours, who came to her assistance, and cut her down. They believe that, from the time the dog began to howl, to the time she was cut down, was full 25 or 30 minutes. She appeared to the people about her to be quite dead, as she did not breathe nor move; however they rubbed her temples with spirits of hartshorn, and poured water into her mouth. Full half an hour was spent in finding the husband, who came for me. I found

I found her entirely motionless, her face somewhat swoln and and livid, her jaws fallen, and every other appearance of death; but having a general warmth, I was induced to attempt her recovery. After laying her in a proper situation, I directed the women to rub her extremities with common salt; the husband was employed in rubbing her temples with hartshorn, every now and then applying it to her nostrils; at the same time I opened a vein in her arm, from which the blood only dropt slowly. When the friction had been continued about fifteen minutes, I perceived a small pulse; this assured me that the use of the fumigator, or bronchotomy would not be wanting, which it was my intention to have tried. The friction was continued with assiduity for half an hour, when I found her pulse increase; the blood flowed freer; she began to breathe, and move her head; and soon after screamed most violently. She then swallowed a few drops of spirit of hartshorn and water without much difficulty: her senses in some degree returned; she called for water, and complained of her legs being hurt: her extremities being by this time very much inflamed, and she being thought out of danger, the friction was discontinued. I then left directions with the people about her how she was to be managed; and on the next morning found her free of all complaints, except a pain in her head and soreness of the throat. I have seen her frequently since in perfect health.

F. THOMAS.

C A S E IV.

ON *Thursday* afternoon, *August* 18, 1774,
John Harrington, a boy 14 years old, son to *Mary*
 D 2 *Harrington*

Harrington, near the *Blue Posts* at *Poplar*, went into the *Thames*, near the *Horse-ferry* at *Limehouse*, to bathe. The tide making down, and the river suddenly deepening at that place, he soon got out of his depth, and was in the greatest danger of being drowned: he was a considerable time in the water, struggling and driving down with the tide, until being quite spent, insensible, and sinking, he was fortunately taken into a boat by *Isaac* and *Cornelius Estridge*. He was actually below the surface of the water, and they could just reach to catch hold of some part of the body, and in all probability he would have been totally lost in two minutes more, as it was in the middle of the river. He was without sense, or any perceptible respiration, when taken up. They brought him on shore, and began to shake him pretty smartly, with his head rather downwards, as they supposed he had taken in a considerable quantity of water: however, by this agitation he came to his senses; he was taken into the *Three Crowns* at the *Ferry*, and put to bed between blankets. In this situation I found him when I first came, (says *Mr. Patten*, of *Radcliffe-cross*, the Medical Assistant who superintended the cure). As he was then sensible, and the pulsation at the wrist plainly to be distinguished, I directed him to be well rubbed with a piece of hot flannel, and some warm brandy and water to be given him. After which he lay two hours, and went home perfectly well.—*Mr. Patten* also observes, that the encouragement and rewards which the Society give to people assisting in such cases, will be the means not only of recovering many thought to be dead, but will make people more diligent in giving their assistance, before they are so far gone as to render the recovery doubtful—an instance of which was to be seen in the before

fore recited case. A waterman in particular, upon the first cry of the boy's danger, jumped from off the gunwale of a ship into his boat, at the hazard of breaking his limbs, with the view of being first to get him out of the water; but it happened others were nearer, and took him up: Again the people at the house made no scruple of receiving him, and immediately putting him to bed.

Having observed in the *London Chronicle* an account of the recovery of a child that was drowned at *Henley upon Thames*, we wrote to Mr. *Clowes*, Surgeon in that place, who was mentioned as having performed the cure, for the particulars of it; and he was so obliging as to transmit the following to us, by the hands of Mr. *Rich*, Secretary to the Society.

A

Sir, *Henley upon Thames, July 15, 1774.*
In compliance with your request, I have sent as true a state of the case you enquire about as I am able, and think myself happy in having merited the attention of so humane a Society.

‘ON the 27th of *April* an accident happened here, attended with a very singular circumstance: some children were playing near a drain cut through this town for the conveniency of conveying the water from a neighbouring spring, occasioned by the late heavy rains, into the *Thames*, when one of these children unfortunately fell in, and was driven by the rapidity of the current near 300 yards under ground. From the place where this little girl fell, the water takes an angular course under the great *Oxford Road*, and is banked in with posts and other implements to confine the violence of the stream. From the angular course it runs in a right line into the *Thames*,
through

through another narrow covered drain, almost choaked up with sand and filth. This child, something better than two years of age, was at last taken up at the end of this drain, notwithstanding every impediment in the passage.

My house being situated next the *Thames* where the child was taken up, I was called immediately to its assistance, and found her to all appearance dead; cold as clay; the extremities and body of a high livid colour, with its jaw fallen, and a neighbour suspending her by the legs. Being firmly of opinion that little or no water enters into the thorax or stomach in these cases, I immediately altered its position (after taking off the wet clothes with the greatest expedition) by the assistance of two or three bystanders; the child was supported in an horizontal posture, with its head a little elevated. Then I began the recovery, by compressing with my hands the abdomen, so as to force the viscera towards the diaphragm, that the lungs might receive some pressure, and expel the stagnated air in their vessels; as it is generally allowed, that people who die by submersion, die in inspiration. By continuing this pressure a short time, and making a strong friction with warm cloths upon the abdomen, thorax and extremities (by the help of a proper assistant who was at hand) the child soon shewed some signs of life by little gaspings. I also evidently felt a pulsation from the heart. As soon as she was capable of swallowing, I got down *acetum scilliticum* $\frac{3}{4}$ s. in order to stimulate nature by puking, which had the desired effect, and she soon recovered. The coldness of the limbs prevented my using the lancet, and I believe it was a full hour before the pulse at the wrist could be perceived.

I am, Sir, your obedient humble Servant,

T. CLOWES.

B

The Case following was communicated to Mr. *Rich*, Secretary to the Society, by Mr. *Rose*, Surgeon and Apothecary, at *Putney*.

Putney, August 15, 1774.

‘ Sir,

‘ You’ll be pleased to present my most respectful compliments to the Gentlemen of the Society, and acquaint them I have, agreeable to their request, transmitted the method used in the recovery of *John Beesley*, a lad of 12 years of age, son to a shoemaker in *Fulham*.

‘ Passing over the bridge in my carriage on the 4th inst. about six o’clock in the evening, I was stopped, and requested to give my assistance to a boy just carried into the *Swan alehouse* by the water side, said to be drowned. On my entrance, I found him lying on his face, and people rubbing him with salt. I immediately caused him to be set up, his head and shoulders supported, and took away 8 oz. of blood from the arm, rubbed his face, neck, &c. well with brandy, and continued the friction of salt: after some time persisting in this method, he shewed signs of life. I then directed him to be put to bed betwixt the blankets, and attempted to get down some brandy into the stomach, but this was impracticable. I then left him for the present, desiring the attendants to continue the friction of salt on the body and extremities, and the bathing of the face, &c. with the brandy, and to keep his head and shoulders a little raised. At nine o’clock the same evening I called again, and found nature had *just*
then

then made an effort, by vomiting up some slime and water. His pulse now was getting up, with a general warmth diffused all over him. I ordered some gruel with wine as soon as he was capable of taking it, and then to leave him to rest, which he did the remaining part of the night. He arose the next morning free from complaints, eat a good breakfast, walked home, and has continued perfectly well ever since.

I am, Sir,

Your most humble Servant,

JOHN ROSE.

N. B. When I first saw him there was a total loss of muscular motion, no perceptible pulse nor respiration; the extremities cold, face and eyes livid, and the jaws fixed, with a frothing at the mouth; in short, to all human appearance dead, excepting a guttural noise, which indicated some degree of air circulating through the lungs. How long he might be struggling in the water ere he was taken out I know not; they told me he had been fifteen minutes out of it when I first saw him.

To the PUBLIC.

WE undertook to introduce into these kingdoms an Institution for the Recovery of Persons apparently dead by Drowning, &c. upon the justifiable presumption that, should the methods recommended in such alarming cases prove in any tolerable degree effectual, the known and experienced humanity of our countrymen would encourage a design so peculiarly benevolent in its views. We naturally concluded, that numbers in this great and opulent city would freely join us, and assist, by their liberal contributions, our attempts to lessen, in a very essential article, the evils of human life. Induced by these considerations, we have taken no small pains, and some of us have been at no inconsiderable expence, to place our institution upon an unexceptionable and advantageous footing, and to give the methods recommended by others as so remarkably efficacious, a fair and impartial trial. If they had not answered our desires, we should have borne *alone* that *ridicule* which the bulk of mankind are so ready to lavish upon unsuccessful projectors: Surely then we have a right to call upon every one whose circumstances will permit, to share with us the *honour*

of doing good ; the inexpressible satisfaction of restoring life to perishing individuals, and happiness to distracted families !

The above examples of recovery, few as they are, as incontestibly prove the practicability of restoring those who are to all appearance dead, as if they had been more numerous. And they ascertain also a very affecting and humiliating truth : They demonstrate that hundreds might have been restored, and have remained to this moment a blessing to their connections and to the world, had not *Britain* been so shamefully inattentive to these cries of the distressed ; had not a baneful, may we not say *murderous* spirit of incredulity, rendered us deaf to the repeated assertions and demonstrative facts communicated to us by our neighbours on the continent ; who, we are sorry to say, have in this instance taken large strides before us, in serving the great cause of humanity.

The second part of the Dutch Memoirs, published since the first was translated, contains no less than fifty-eight additional instances of restoration to life ; so that they have redeemed, in the space of about six years, upwards of *two hundred* souls from death. In France, they have been instrumental in saving forty-five persons out of sixty-nine in about 16 months ; and it is a natural inference, that England has permitted numbers nearly equal to perish, for want of a similar interposition.

But we now hope that our happy experience, connected with that of almost every country in Europe, will at length fix the attention of our countrymen upon this important object ; and then they will soon learn how much good may be effected by their patronizing our undertaking. It would be difficult to form an estimate of the number of lives annually
lost

lost by drowning in this island : but when we recollect that we are surrounded by water ; that we are the first maritime state ; that accidents of this nature are perpetually happening upon navigable rivers, in sea-ports, and on voyages ; and that there is not a town or village in the kingdom where the inhabitants are not exposed to danger by bathing, sliding, &c. we need not hesitate to pronounce the amount to be several hundreds. But as the methods so successfully practised in the case of drowned persons, are also applicable in sudden deaths occasioned by various other causes ; whether suffocation by the cord, by noxious vapours, (as in coal and lead mines) suspension of the vital powers by lightning, syncopies, &c. &c. what an ample and untrodden field is open for the exercise of our generous compassion ! What solid benefits might we not insure to the state, what lasting happiness to thousands, were the rich individuals, or the Magistracy of this great and wealthy city, to let so laudable a design share some portion of their bounty* ! Our premiums might be extended to a greater distance from the metropolis ; they might also comprehend other cases of sudden deaths ; we should be enabled to diffuse over the whole kingdom, even to its most retired parts, the knowledge of these success-

* We cannot forbear expressing our warmest acknowledgments to the Right Honourable FREDERICK BULL, Esq; the present worthy Lord Mayor, for the *early* countenance he has given to our design. It is not unusual for Societies which have gained a full establishment, or are so far advanced as to confer a degree of honour upon their Presidents, to meet with respectable patrons. But for the chief Magistrate of the first city in Europe, to stoop and take an *infant* institution by the hand, and lead it through its first dangers and difficulties, merely because it was a *humane* one, reflects the highest lustre upon the benevolence of his disposition, and affords an example worthy the imitation of every gentleman of fortune and influence.

ful methods, and excite a general spirit of trying these salutary experiments in every case of sudden death. The very idea of such extensive utility must warm the heart of every man that has a heart to be warmed : And we confess it hurts us to have such a noble prospect opened to our view, and feel ourselves confined and fettered by the narrowness of our finances.

It is by no means our desire to erect this Institution upon the ruins of any other. It is with pleasure, and with a justifiable pride, that we behold such a variety of Plans formed, and supported by that spirit of benevolence which distinguishes this nation, in order to alleviate the various distresses of mankind. Our only wish is, that this may be added to the number ; that we may be uniform and consistent in our acts of humanity ; that the streams of public beneficence may not be confined in partial channels, but be divided and subdivided until they reach every proper object of distress.

And yet the justice we owe to our undertaking requires us to hint, that were we to draw a comparison between our Institution and those many others which do honour to their patrons, it would yield to none of them, either with respect to the quantity of good produced at a comparatively small expence ; the importance and extent of its views ; or the peculiar benevolence of its designs.

The current expences, after the first, necessary to make our plan sufficiently known, are defrayed, will nearly be proportionate to the number of accidents which present themselves. As we are not burdened with any standing charges, as the spot nearest to the place where the accident has happened becomes a temporary infirmary ; where, if the humanity of the inhabitant should not, a moderate gra-

gratuity furnishes all the necessary accommodations; every guinea employed will be towards the actual redemption of a life. Surely if a charitable disposition contributes such large sums with cheerfulness towards the building, furniture, and maintenance of HOSPITALS, where a princely fortune is frequently sunk previous to the expected good, and where the hopes of relief are equally uncertain to each individual, it will not refuse a moiety immediately employed in succouring a fellow-creature in the depth of distress.

We again urge, that the objects whose cause we are pleading with the public, seem to claim a peculiar right to our friendly interposition. They are either the *industrious poor*, whom it is our interest as well as duty to replace, if possible, in their sphere of usefulness, that they may again work for their wives and families: whereby these are snatched from misery and want, and the community relieved from a troublesome and expensive burden. Or, they are unhappy objects, impelled by a temporary phrensy to the desperate resolution of becoming their own executioners. If indulgent benevolence has erected hospitals for the removal of evils mankind bring upon themselves by vicious gratifications, it must feel an additional pleasure in recalling a miserable creature from the very brink of eternity, into which he was precipitating himself by his own guilt; which guilt has this alleviation—it was occasioned by *wretchedness*. Or, they are objects with whom any individual of us may have an immediate concern. Business or pleasure, or some unforeseen cause, exposes every man, either in his own person or in his connections, to accidents by water. In other cases our station in life may be so different, and so remote

mote from the party we assist, that it may become impossible for us ever to partake of any other benefit from our donations than the pleasure of doing good ; but every man living is exposed to the accidents we are attempting to avert, either in his own person or connexions; without any exemption from age, sex, or fortune ; and he may owe his own preservation, or the preservation of some one still dearer to him, to that institution he patronized from a motive of public utility. So that it ought to be considered as a kind of insurance of life rather than an affair of charity ; as an association against those calamities which are common to us all. And when it shall become extensive, numbers will doubtless have cause to rejoice, that while they have been instrumental in saving *others*, their own, or the lives of their dearest relations, perhaps of their children, whose heedless and adventurous spirits are exposing them to perpetual dangers, have by these means been protracted for years.

But the Institutions formed upon the Plan, and for purposes like ours, speak with peculiar energy to the finest feelings of the human heart. Death is universally dreaded as an evil, and those establishments which have for their object the healing of diseases, and restoration to vigorous active life, have justly been ranked amongst the most benevolent and useful ; but *sudden* death, by some fatal disaster, aggravates the stroke. It is resented as a dreadful robbery which accident has committed ; and we lament the victim as cruelly and unguardedly stripped in a moment of the blessings he had the prospect of enjoying for a series of years. If there be to every good man a secret pleasure in performing acts of common beneficence, in being of *cold* utility to
his

his fellow-creatures, how must his heart glow with satisfaction, where he has been instrumental in restoring to the joyful arms of relatives and friends, a parent, a child, a brother or an intimate, at the instant they are deploring his loss with inexpressible anguish ! We have too favourable an opinion of the human heart, to suspect that any one who calls himself a Christian, or a Man, would refuse to part with a much larger sum than that for which we solicit, in order to extricate a fellow-creature, were he to *behold* him struggling with the agonies of death ; or were he enabled by it to present a living husband instead of a breathless corpse, to the bosom of his distracted wife ; or a lovely child to the arms of its fond parents ! And surely, it requires no great exertion of the imagination to paint this affecting scene in such colours, as to induce every man, who makes the smallest pretensions to benevolence, to concur with us in so pleasing, so delightful, so god-like a design !

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